

Report on the
Administration
of the United Provinces
of Agra and Oudh

1925-1926



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Report on the Administration
OF THE
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh
IN
1925-26.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

THIS report deals for the most part with the financial year from April, 1925 to March, 1926. Part I, the General Summary, describes in narrative form the events of the calendar year 1926. Part II gives a detailed account of the working of each department of Government based upon departmental reports which cover the financial year, the land revenue year, the agricultural year or the calendar year according to the nature of the subjects which they review.

PART I.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

1. The rapidity with which the province recovered from the floods of 1924 is a welcome sign of the recuperative powers of the cultivating classes. Although the spring crops suffered from the lack of winter rains the series of good monsoons continued unbroken in 1926. A slight rise in the prices of agricultural produce and a corresponding fall in the price of piece goods have operated to the benefit of the cultivator who forms nine-tenths of the population of the province.

The main factor retarding economic development was the continued growth of communal tension which actually led in places to the opening by one community of subsidized shops in order to drive shopkeepers of the other community from

the market. In fact, the shadow of communal conflict darkened throughout the year the path along which the province is steadily moving towards a realization of economic, social and political ideals.

The transferred subjects of education, agriculture and medicine made great strides. Industry was encouraged by every possible form of government assistance and the co-operative movement has been thoroughly examined with a view to future development and advance. Local boards, however, suffered from communal friction among their members.

Public health was good. Crime was normal and political activity of the nature which demands the constant attention of magistrates and police was non-existent.

The remission of part of the provincial contribution to central revenues made it possible to balance the budget and although the financial position does not admit of optimism, the improvement during the past three years made possible some acceleration in the rate of development of the transferred subjects.

POLITICAL CONDITIONS.

2. Except for an accentuation of Hindu-Muslim tension and the growth of factions with diverse aims among the various political associations, political conditions in 1926 did not differ much from those of the previous year.

Provincial politics were closely linked with political activity elsewhere in India. The Congress of 1925 affected the province more intimately than usual as the annual session was held at Cawnpore in December. It was marked by the cleavage between the Swarajists who were until then in control and the Responsivist section which differed strongly from the Swarajist party on the question of the acceptance of office and the working of the reforms. The Congress soon split into three camps, the Swarajists reiterating their faith in civil disobedience and their determination not to work the reforms, the Responsivists pledged to responsive co-operation so far as it suited their interests, and the Hindu Sabha party standing for Hindu nationalism and strengthened by the growing communal friction.

throughout the province. Faced thus with opposition from two quarters, the Swaraj party made no attempt to carry out their threat of civil disobedience. Later on the Sabarmati pact of April, 1926 represented an attempt by the Swarajist leader to re-unite his broken ranks, but the pact was soon repudiated. Communal troubles added to his difficulties, and at length Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya with the assistance of Lala Lajpat Rai and the support of the Hindu Sabha, formed an "Independent Congress party" whose candidates were pledged to protect Hindu interests. All these variations in the political barometer affected the United Provinces. The Hindu Mahasabha secured for itself a considerable amount of local influence which was successfully brought to bear on the elections; and the numbers of the Swarajist party in the Legislative Council fell from 33 to 21.

While the Congress was revealing dissension within its ranks at Cawnpore the Muslim League was in session at Aligarh. The revival of the League and the holding of its session independently of the Congress marked a definite break in the political alliance which the two communities had, in the stress of circumstances, temporarily formed, and a speech of Sir Abdur Rahim at Calcutta widened the breach.

The leaders of the Khilafat party still endeavoured to keep alive an organization for the existence of which no logical justification remains, but the party itself has lost many followers through the revival of the Muslim league. A display of interest in the internal affairs of the Hedjaz was coldly received by Sultan Ibn Saud and has done nothing to strengthen the hold of the Khilafat leaders over a dwindling following.

An attempt by Pandit Moti Lal Nehru and M. Abul Kalam Azad to preserve a semblance of Hindu-Muslim unity was defeated by the bitterness of feeling which communal disturbances and the controversy regarding music before mosques had engendered. These two factors left the breach between the two communities wider than ever.

The year was practically free from labour troubles, and the Mazdur Sabha at Cawnpore was the only labour organization

The Council continued to show interest in the promotion of temperance, the separation of executive and judicial functions, the abolition of commissionerships and the extension of village *panchayats*. Honorary magistrates came in for severe criticism and the alleged conduct of district officers in the matter of district and municipal board elections led to the passing of a resolution that Government should issue further instructions on the subject of interference in elections by government servants. A further ruling on the rights of members of the Council to inspect government institutions was obtained.

CRIME AND POLICE ADMINISTRATION.

Crime in
1925-26.

5. The economic and political conditions of 1925 were favourable and the volume of serious crime was smaller than at any time in the last eleven years. These conditions were repeated in 1926 when a poor *rabi* followed by a slight increase of crime was counteracted by a good monsoon. A feature of the year 1925 was the increased number of riots and especially of communal riots which were reported from thirteen districts. Friction continued unabated in 1926 and every festival was a source of anxiety to the local authorities. The year began with disturbances in February at Agra and Cawnpore, continued with outbreaks in Bareilly, Fatehpur, Jaunpur and Lucknow and culminated in serious riots at Sihali (Bara Banki), Najibabad (Bijnor), Farrukhabad, Jhusi (Allahabad) and Allahabad city. In many of these places it was found necessary to impose additional police at the cost of the inhabitants. In Allahabad the rioting was severe and resulted in several deaths and a large number of casualties. The Jhusi case in which all the accused were Hindus was made a national question and funds were collected for their defence from all over the province. The case resulted in the conviction of most of the accused, three of whom were sentenced to death. The festival season over, public interest was transferred to the general election. A peaceful *Dashra* improved the communal situation and the year closed under happier conditions.

The success obtained in dealing with dacoity in 1924 and 1925 was further improved upon in 1926. The number of

dacoities in 1925 was only half of that in 1922, the year in which the Special Dacoity Police were embodied, and in 1926 the number was even smaller. In addition to the work of this force which at the close of the year was extended to cover the whole of the province, the regular police and villagers co-operated on more than one occasion in the breaking up of dangerous gangs and the arrest of notorious outlaws. Two notorious dacoits were captured by the district police of Mainpuri; in Jhansi a dacoit leader was killed by a mixed party of villagers and police, in Moradabad the superintendent of police arrested eight men in the act of committing dacoity; and in Bahraich, where the police arrested three gangs red-handed, villagers gave substantial help. Gang cases involving some three hundred dacoits were before the courts at the close of the year. Organized dacoity which a few years ago menaced the peace of the province has been brought under control and the police should now be able to maintain the upper hand. There remains, however, the serious problem of the Chambal Kanjars who have for years harassed Agra and the neighbouring districts, while the Bauriahs of Muzaffarnagar and a number of other gangs have still to be dealt with.

Robbery, which decreased in 1925, increased slightly in 1926, possibly owing to the fact that, dacoity having become too dangerous a pursuit, criminals have turned to the lesser forms of crime. Murder cases in 1926 show a considerable rise over the figures for 1925. While burglary and theft decreased, it is clear that since the reductions in the number of village chaukidars a large proportion of burglaries and thefts is never reported. Cattle theft continued to increase in 1926 when the figure for the first ten months was higher than for the whole of 1925. This is partly due to the fact that the special cattle theft police have discovered a number of concealed cases. The custom of compounding with the thief for the recovery of the stolen cattle, which the villager prefers to the trouble and expense of an inquiry from which he expects little, is hard to eradicate. It is hoped, however, that adequate payment of the expenses of complainants and witnesses will induce him to co-operate in the task of grappling with this difficult form of crime.

Police
administra-
tion.

Special steps have been taken in concert with the police of the Punjab for dealing with cattle theft on the border.

6. Some posts of circle inspector have been temporarily restored with good results. The general loss of touch with the villages caused by large reductions in the chaukidari force accounts for more concealment of crime, less accurate reporting of births and deaths and less effective surveillance over bad characters. The Legislative Council has condemned the sweeping reductions in this force and a proposal to re-employ over five thousand chaukidars has been approved by the Government and awaits allotment of funds. The increase of work due to communal unrest, the elaboration of the accounts system and the greater complexity of police administration has put a severe strain upon the cadre of gazetted officers, and police work is much hampered by frequent and unavoidable administrative changes. A scheme for the reorganization of the railway police, in which service is not popular, has been drawn up and will come into operation as soon as funds permit.

Criminal
justice

THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

7 While the more settled political and economic conditions were reflected in a fall in the number of offences against the State and its officers and in nearly all other forms of serious crime, the total number of offences again rose by nearly three per cent. in Agra and over six per cent. in Oudh. This is attributed to a stricter enforcement of local and special laws and to the facilities for petty litigation afforded by the steady increase in the number of honorary courts.

The courts as usual had to be relieved by the appointment of a number of temporary and additional judges. In Agra the number of persons brought to trial actually exceeded by over 40,000 the number of witnesses examined, while in Oudh 64 per cent. of persons brought to trial were acquitted or discharged. In spite of this clear evidence of the extent to which false and frivolous litigation persists the provisions of the law for the punishment of false and frivolous complaints remained almost a dead letter.

The average duration of trials in Agra remained ten days. In Oudh the duration of cases in magisterial courts fell from twelve to eleven days, while in sessions courts owing to a number

of complicated cases, particularly the Imperial Bank embezzlement case and the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway fraud cases, the average duration rose from 58 days to 64.

Honorary magistrates again relieved the regular courts of a large volume of work but their readiness to admit frivolous and quasi-civil complaints contributes to the growth of litigation.

8. Both in Agra and in Oudh the volume of civil litigation was the highest on record. It appears that the increase in the number of courts which the heavy arrears necessitated has, by providing more speedy decisions, encouraged the filing of suits. The number of disposals rose in Agra from 166,235 to 172,014 and in Oudh from 70,075 to 73,613. While the duration of contested suits in subordinate courts in Agra decreased, in the courts of district judges it rose from 164 days to 195. There was a marked decrease in the duration of regular suits in Oudh.

Civil
justice.

9. The need for more judges in the Allahabad High Court, met hitherto by repeated appointments of additional judges, had grown more acute than ever in February, 1926 when the term of the two additional judges expired. Arrears were steadily accumulating and institutions increasing. Accordingly with effect from March, 1926 the number of permanent judges was raised from seven to nine, the term of the additional judges being also extended.

The High
Court at
Allahabad.

On April 1, 1926, the civil jurisdiction of the High Court at Allahabad was extended to Kumaun.

AGRARIAN PROBLEMS.

10. With the passing of the Agra Tenancy Act in August, 1926, a momentous change in the system of land tenure in the province was made.

Occupancy rights no longer arise out of continuous cultivation but are conferable by the landlord under an agreement with his tenant. The great majority of non-occupancy tenants who under the Act of 1901 held only at the will of their landlord now enjoy life tenure and their heirs have a right to succeed them for three years. By these changes two fruitful sources of litigation have been removed. Enhancement of rent is limited to one-fourth of the existing demand and can be made only at intervals of twenty years. In place of the unworkable formula

which under the old Act regulated procedure in suits for enhancement of rent a roster year system has been applied to Agra on the lines of that of the Oudh Rent Act but without its defects. Tenants who pay grain rents can now apply to the district courts for their commutation to cash rents. To compensate the landlords for the sacrifices which the Act requires of them provision has been made for the extension of the area held as their *sir*; the procedure for the realization of arrears of rent and for ejectment in default of payment has been simplified; and landlords can now acquire from their tenants land which they need for bona fide purposes.

In the Land Revenue Bill which sought to codify the principles governing settlements further concessions to the landlords were proposed in the reduction of the proportion of assets to be taken as land revenue from 50 to 40 per cent.; in the extension to forty years of the normal term for which a settlement should remain in force; and in the limitation of revenue enhancement to one-third of the expiring demand. The Council, however, pressed for even greater concessions, and Government, being unable to give them, were reluctantly compelled to withdraw the Bill. They have, however, undertaken to embody the main provisions of the Bill in the new settlement rules.

The Oudh Rent Amendment Act allows tenants whose holdings are divided by the Sarda canal to relinquish those parts of them which have become too inaccessible to cultivate profitably. It also limits rent enhancement to one-third of the existing rent.

The provision of the Oudh Rent Act disqualifying a tenant who possesses proprietary or under-proprietary rights in a village from acquiring statutory rights in that village, and that rendering a tenant liable to ejectment from the whole of his holding for illegally sub-letting a part of it continue to evoke adverse criticism.

AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS.

Rainfall
and its
effects on
harvests.

11. Owing to the early cessation of the monsoon of 1925 and the consequent lack of moisture in the soil there was a considerable decrease in the *rabi* area. The area sown with

wheat, barley and gram was 900,000 acres less than in the previous year. The winter rains were deficient and were mainly confined to the west of the province. Standing crops were damaged by hail in March and untimely and abnormal rain in April and May seriously affected the harvest. The series of bumper *rabi* crops was thus broken and the total area under cultivation returned to the normal. Wheat which suffered most gave a yield of 75 per cent. of the normal on the area sown, while the yield of barley and gram was 85 per cent.

The rainfall in June was far below normal everywhere and preparations for the *kharif* were delayed by the late arrival of the monsoon. In August excessive rain in the west and dry weather in the east damaged cotton and rice respectively. The rainfall of the season was considerably above normal in the south-west but elsewhere it was from 10 to 15 per cent. below normal. Heavy sowings of *juar* and *bajra* expanded the *kharif* area, which was more than 800,000 acres above that of the previous year. The area under cotton decreased by 200,000 acres. Taken as a whole the *kharif* crop was both in area and yield superior to its predecessor.

12. Except for a slight drop in March and April the prices of the chief grains, which had risen in November, 1925 with the prospect of a poor *rabi*, continued high until October, 1926 when there was a sudden drop which continued till the end of the year. Generally prices were higher for the greater part of the year than they had been in 1925, and although by December they had fallen below the level of January, they were still higher than in 1924. The following comparative statement shows the course of prices over the past three years (in seers to the rupee):—

		Wheat.	Barley.	Gram.	Rice.
July, 1924	...	7.94	12.37	12.51	5.44
December, 1924	...	7.84	11.06	11.90	5.82
July, 1925	...	6.97	10.45	10.72	5.18
December, 1925	...	5.81	9.02	8.19	5.55
July, 1926	...	6.78	9.27	9.10	5.03
December, 1926	...	7.31	9.89	9.42	6.05

Condition
of the agri-
cultural
classes

13. Except in the case of cotton, the fall in the price of which is reflected in the large decrease in the area sown in 1926, the high prices of agricultural produce were favourable to the cultivator who also benefited by a fall in the price of piece goods. The labouring classes were able to obtain employment at good wages throughout the year. Public health was on the whole good throughout.

IRRIGATION.

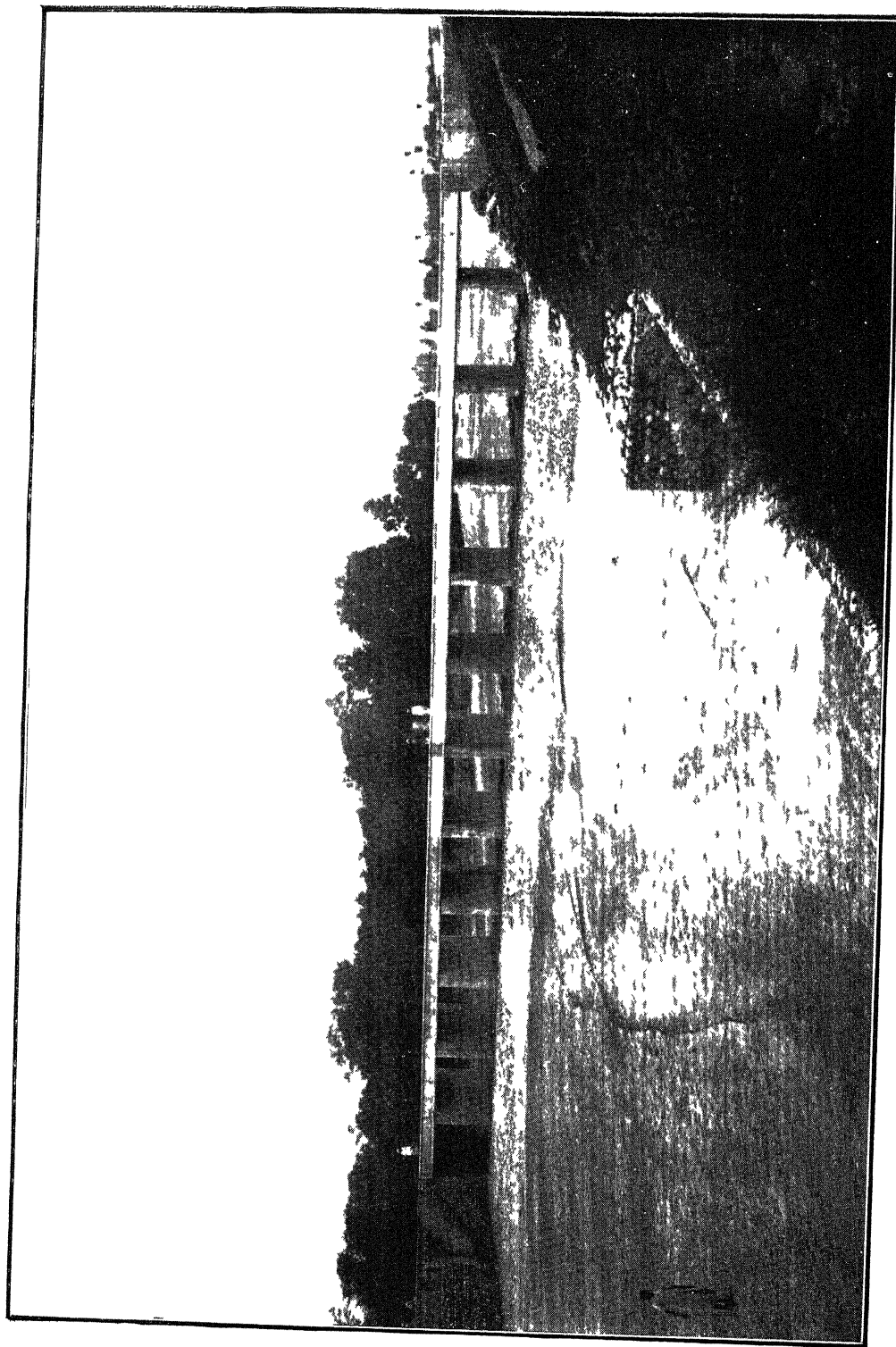
14. The failure of the winter rains of 1925-26 accounts for an increase of fifteen per cent. in the irrigated area. Of the total area 51.1 per cent. was irrigated from wells, 23.7 per cent. from canals and 25.2 per cent. from rivers, tanks and other natural sources. The largest increase of 21.4 per cent. was in the area irrigated from canals. The construction of 5,500 new masonry wells led to an increase of 15.4 in the area irrigated from this source. Rivers and tanks watered an area which was 8.8 per cent. larger than in the previous year.

The total area irrigated by canals rose from 2,286,000 acres to 2,805,000 acres and the value of the crops irrigated from Rs. 16½ crores to nearly Rs. 19 crores. The gross revenue increased by nearly Rs. 21 lakhs and working expenses by nearly half a lakh with the result that the net revenue rose from Rs. 61.76 lakhs to Rs. 81.01 lakhs. The return on the total capital outlay on productive works improved to 1.72 per cent.; but if the expenditure on the Sardar canal system which is under construction were excluded the net return would be 4.37 per cent. Unproductive works, consisting mainly of protective canals and tanks in Bundelkhand, showed a loss of 4.02 per cent. compared with 4.45 per cent. in the previous year.

The late arrival of the monsoon of 1926 resulted in an increased demand for water for the *kharif* crop, with the result that the *kharif* area irrigated by canals rose from 1,044,000 acres to about 1,211,000 acres.

Develop-
ment.

15. Unexpected spates delayed progress on the headworks of the Sardar canal in 1925 but the Deoha-Bahgul feeder was completed and opened for irrigation. Progress in 1926, however, was more rapid than was expected, and it is anticipated that a large section of the Sardar canal and the Sardar-Kichha



Rampur bridge. Completed July 4, 1925.

feeder canal will be opened for irrigation in the *rabi* season of 1928-29. These canals absorbed Rs. 106 lakhs out of a total outlay of Rs. 124 lakhs on new productive works in 1925-26 and the expenditure during the current year is estimated at Rs. 125 lakhs. By the end of March, 1926 the total sum sunk in the irrigation works of the province amounted to more than eighteen crores of rupees.

A supplementary grant of Rs. 1,68,000 was obtained in August, 1926 for the hydro-electric scheme at Bahadurabad which will supply electric power to Hardwar and Roorkee. The estimated cost of the scheme is Rs. 3,94,000 and it is to be completed before the *Kumbh mela* in April, 1927.

Floods in September, 1926 washed away the Balli dam in the Rohilkhand canal division and caused damage to the extent of a lakh of rupees to the Pahai and Pahuj dams in Bundelkhand. To protect other weirs in Bundelkhand from similar disasters a further expenditure of two lakhs will be necessary.

With the completion of the Sarda canals the available supplies of river water will be utilized to their full capacity and it is the tube well that must provide for the further extension of artificial irrigation.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

16. The growth of the Agricultural Department since its separation from the Land Records Department has been very rapid. In 1926 it was necessary to increase the staff by 32 posts. These include two posts of lecturers in Zoology and English at the Agricultural college at Cawnpore, the creation of which was necessitated by the recognition of the college by the Board of High School and Intermediate Education. General.

17. The farms managed by the department are of various classes. Instructional and research farms cannot be expected to yield direct financial profits. Demonstration and seed farms on the other hand are required by Government at least to pay their way since unprofitable methods of farming would make little appeal to the cultivator. The research farm at Farrukhabad was engaged in trying to find a remedy for the deterioration of the potato crop due to disease and overcropping of the Improvement of produce.

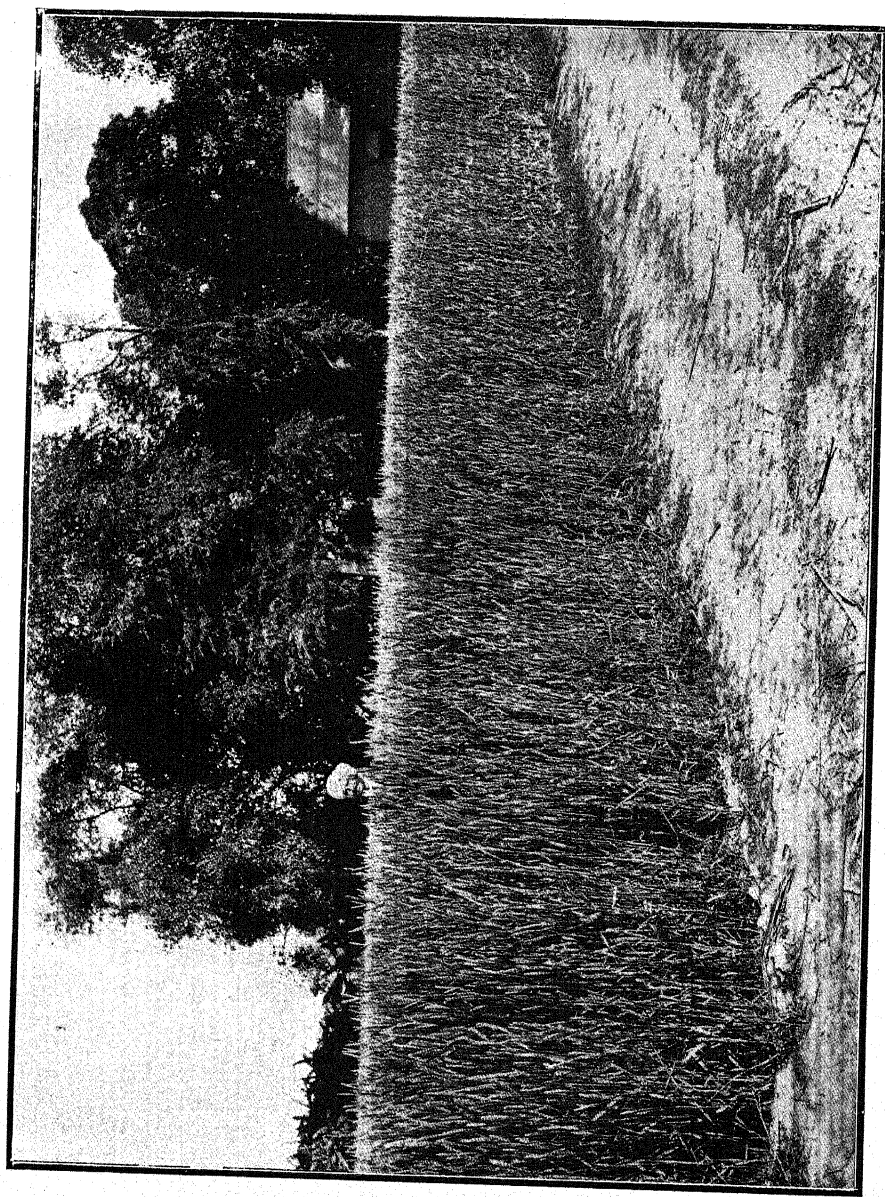
soil. Elsewhere experiments are being made on a new variety of rice and improved types of oil seeds have already been isolated. Research work on cotton and sugarcane, in which direction considerable success has already been achieved, continued. Aligarh 19 cotton is increasingly popular and other varieties are being tried with a view to producing a cotton sufficiently hardy to withstand the climate of the province. Coimbatore sugarcane was sown over an area of 10,000 acres. Java sugarcane has been established in Rohilkhand and parts of the Doab. Six experimental farms yielded a profit of nearly six thousand rupees, while the seventeen demonstration and seed farms produced twenty-seven thousand rupees.

The department also carried out demonstrations on the land of cultivators, on land loaned by cultivators and on demonstration plots in villages. That the cultivator is not blind to obvious benefits is shown by the increase in the number of private farms; by the large purchases of improved seed which, owing to the lack of commercial distributing agencies, the department is obliged to retail; and by the increasing demand for improved ploughs and other implements. Six new central seed stores have recently been established, each capable of distributing annually 20,000 maunds of seed, and increased grants-in-aid have been sanctioned for private farms on condition that they supply improved seed for distribution.

There are now over 700,000 acres under improved wheat and 200,000 under better cotton and the extra income in each case is estimated at fifteen rupees to the acre. About 100,000 acres are growing improved sugarcane yielding an extra profit of at least fifty rupees an acre. A new farm at Bijnor has been equipped and the Bahraich farm has been extended.

**Water
supply.**

18. The cultivator is inclined to be sceptical when faced with the results of the demonstration farms which he attributes to a better and more regular supply of water than he has at his disposal. This objection is being met by the sinking of tube wells designed to put at the disposal of the farmer the almost limitless reservoir of sub-soil water. Sixty-two tube wells were constructed and sixty more were under construction in 1926 and



Pusa Wheat, Shahjahanpur Farm.

the demand is growing. The year's work in this direction alone has added 10,000 acres to the protected area of the province.

19. In addition to the issue of stud bulls from the two farms in the Muttra and Kheri districts, breeding operations under the control of supervisors were continued in the three controlled areas in these districts. At Muttra the Hissar breed has gained most popularity as a draught animal and a dairy farm has now been opened to examine its milk capacity. The Muttra farm has been enlarged to three times its former size, and arrangements have been made for adding a herd of good stud buffaloes to the stock. Bulls are now issued on payment by the cultivator of one-third of the value of the animal instead of free on loan. The willingness with which this change has been accepted is a proof of the value of the work done. A feature of the work of the department is the organization of cattle shows in connexion with local fairs and exhibitions and for this purpose provision for increased awards in prizes has been made. Cattle-breeding

Cattle disease was widely prevalent in 1925-26. Out of 40,000 deaths more than half were due to rinderpest. Preventive inoculation was vigorously carried out and the increased readiness of cattle owners to co-operate with the veterinary staff was a satisfactory sign of the year.

20. The botanical laboratory, the college dairy and the poultry farm at the Agricultural college, Cawnpore, have been extended. The number of applications for admission to the college and to the school at Bulandshahr is greater than can be accepted. At the latter institution a number of district board school teachers have received instruction and classes have been opened for the training of fieldmen and engine drivers. Expansion.

21. The public gardens of the province continued to improve under the control of a deputy director of agriculture. In addition to maintaining and improving the gardens the staff was engaged in research work on manures and plant diseases. Public gardens.

FORESTS.

22. There are signs that the acceptance of the recommendations of the Kumaun Forest Grievances Committee has led to a change for the better in the attitude of the Kumaun villagers Disforestation and afforestation

towards the Forest Department. In the year 1925-26 over 12,000 acres of open forest round villages were burnt under the supervision of experts at the request of villagers who themselves provided the labour. In some cases also villagers gave free labour for burning in reserved forests. On the other hand signs are not wanting that the removal of all control over a large area is endangering the existence of the forests therein. A serious shortage of timber and fuel is threatened: grazing has deteriorated and the income from resin has gone. It is hoped that some form of communal control through village *panchayats* will supply a remedy and an officer has been deputed to Madras to study the system there.

Production.

23. The value of controlled burning in protecting *chir* forests from destructive fires has been established. Controlled burning for *sal* is still in the experimental stage but there is reason to believe that it will do much to solve the problem of the successful reproduction of this species. Among artificial means of *sal* regeneration, which generally are prohibitive in cost, the Taungya plantation system continued to give excellent results in 1925. Climatic conditions in 1926 were unfavourable to artificial regeneration. Afforestation in the Jumna and Chambal ravines has made good progress.

Produce valued at Rs. 59.89 lakhs, of which Rs. 46.30 lakhs represent the value of timber and fuel, was removed in 1925-26 from the forests under the direct control of the Forest Department. Owing to the transfer from the department of large tracts of forest in Kumaun the percentage of reserved forest open to grazing fell from 69 to 58.

Nearly 50,000 maunds of resin was supplied by the department to the Indian Turpentine and Resin Company in which the Government hold shares. The company declared a dividend of ten per cent. in 1925-26 and an indent for 80,000 maunds of resin for 1927-28 testifies to a further expansion of the industry. Prices obtained at the timber auctions of 1926 exceeded expectations and in consequence a net surplus of Rs. 25 lakhs is estimated for 1926-27.

Communications.

24. The Nandhaur tramway system, sixteen miles in length, and the tramway of 25 miles from Lachmipur to Chauraha in the

Gorakhpur division were completed in 1926. In three and a half months the Nandhaur valley tramway gave a return of 30 per cent. on the capital outlay of Rs. 1.79 lakhs. With the opening of this tramway the charges for cartage immediately fell. Roads are badly needed for the full development of the Kumaun forests but for want of funds little can be done in this direction.

25. The amount of damage by fire in 1925 was negligible, and in 1926 although protection from fire was made difficult by the late arrival of the monsoon no serious outbreaks occurred. The most serious damage was that caused by the *sal* borer. A method evolved by the Forest Entomologist for dealing with this pest was successful in the Dehra Dun forests, but it cannot be applied in large stretches of hill forest. Meanwhile the pest has spread to a number of other divisions where an attempt is being made to combat it by leaving the areas badly affected and by felling all outlying attacked trees. General.

INDUSTRY AND TRADE.

26. The improvement in the condition of industry in 1924 was not maintained during 1925 and 1926. The number of operatives employed in 1925-26 in textile, engineering, food, drink and tobacco factories decreased from 26,145 to 24,678. Cotton, which was in a critical condition throughout 1925, suffered still further from an uncertain and steadily declining market in 1926, and it is only owing to the fact that both the management and the financial position of the mills are sound that they have not succumbed to the same extent as mills in other provinces. Ginning and pressing factories and handloom weavers on the other hand benefited to some extent by the cheapness of cotton. The gold thread industry which had revived under the protection of a tariff suffered from a dull market. Wool was depressed owing to the increased import of cheap foreign manufactures which were able to take advantage of the depreciated exchanges of France, Italy and other countries, and although the blanket weavers of Najibabad and Muzaffarnagar were able to maintain their position in 1925 they were badly hit by a fall of 30 per cent. in the price of woollen goods in 1926. The dearth of raw materials and the low prices fetched by the

finished article were detrimental to the oil and glass industries. The latter was further handicapped by foreign competition. Dyeing suffered from the depression in the weaving industry, and the output of carpets at Agra decreased considerably owing to the poor demand. At Mirzapur the demand was further restricted owing to the accumulation of stocks in London and a deterioration in quality. The high price of *gur* and the comparatively low price of Java sugar made the conversion of *gur* into sugar unprofitable and sugar refineries suffered accordingly.

The larger engineering firms, on the other hand, were able to establish new foundries, and the locksmiths at Aligarh had a successful year. Silk, higher grade wood-working and scientific instruments had a good market. The cheapness of sugarcane benefited the manufacturers of sugar from cane. One new factory was started and extensions were made to several existing works.

Although the tanning industry at Agra had a difficult year, elsewhere both the tanning and leather-working industries found a steady market.

Conditions
of employ-
ment.

27. There was a large increase in the number of inspections made and it is reported that factory owners are taking more interest in the sanitary conditions of their factories. Although the British India Corporation has done commendable social welfare work in Cawnpore, the problem of providing sanitary housing accommodation for factory operatives is becoming acute. Any attempt to build houses and let them at economic rents is difficult owing to the high price of land in Cawnpore. The Government are considering the advisability of giving a loan on easy terms.

Legislation.

28. The Cotton Pressing and Ginning Act came into force in 1925. By helping buyers to determine the localities from which any particular consignment of cotton comes, the Act serves to check such malpractices as damping.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

29. The industrial progress of the province is handicapped by a variety of causes. That the spirit of financial enterprise is

weak is shown by the fact that there are fewer joint stock banks than in any other province. The owners of factories are inclined very often to leave the management to untrained hands and rarely trouble to acquire the knowledge necessary to adapt imported machinery and processes to local conditions. In 1925, for the first time the son of a factory owner applied for admission to the Government Textile School at Cawnpore. There is also a dearth of skilled mechanics. Most of those who have acquired the education necessary for a skilled craftsman do not as yet take kindly to manual labour, and not a single candidate belonging to the province has so far joined the technical institutions as a non-stipendiary student. The majority of students are attracted by the stipends. Finally, the people of the province have not yet awakened to the possibilities of industrial development. The landlords who are well placed for developing industries such as sugar and oil have so far not done as much as they might in this direction.

30. Acting upon the finding of the Burn Committee that no change in the general policy of the Department of Industries was necessary, Government continued to expedite progress along the lines previously established. The number of industrial schools and colleges controlled or aided by Government has increased to 113 and over 3,000 students including an increasing number from other provinces were receiving instruction in 1926. The grant of two more long-term foreign scholarships for leather working and electrical engineering increased the number of technical scholars receiving education abroad to five. Short-term scholarships were given to two ex-students of the Arts and Crafts School, and provision has been made for four more short-term scholarships in 1926-27.

The Stores Purchase Department made purchases from local manufacturers to the value of nearly Rs 26 lakhs. It has now undertaken to supply yarn to co-operative weavers' societies.

In addition to the provision of loans and grants of over one lakh, demonstrations were made at nearly all the district and other exhibitions, and local industries were encouraged by the award of gold and silver medals.

The superior technical staff of the department was engaged in conducting analyses and experiments for the benefit of industrialists as well as in giving them help and advice in the management of existing factories.

The cost to Government of the department in 1925-26 was more than eleven lakhs and a large number of schemes involving an additional expenditure of two lakhs were included in the new demands for 1926-27. If nothing more than the help of Government and the sympathy of the Legislative Council were needed to ensure industrial development, there would be no cause for anxiety. Unfortunately Government can only give a lead. The real impulse must come from the people themselves and so far there is little sign of an industrial awakening.

COMMUNICATIONS, BUILDINGS AND POWER.

Railways.

31. Some progress was made in railway expansion the need for which had been felt for many years. The Pharenda-Nautanwa branch of the Bengal and North-Western Railway was completed and the Aishbagh-Lucknow section of the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway was doubled and opened to traffic. The branch line from Hardwar to Rikhikesh was nearly completed and a branch from Agra to Bah was commenced. The former line will facilitate pilgrim traffic between two great centres of pilgrimage while the latter will open up a large tract of irrigated country in the Agra district. The remodelling of the Gorakhpur yard was completed and additional loops at seventeen other stations on the Bengal and North-Western Railway were constructed. At Lucknow the new station was opened by His Excellency the Governor in December, 1926 and considerable progress was made in the extension of the locomotive shops.

Roads and bridges.

32. An exhaustive examination of the condition of roads established the fact that over 300 miles of roads in the neighbourhood of large towns had so seriously deteriorated owing to the large increase in heavy traffic that nothing short of fundamental reconstruction would suffice to repair the damage. A programme of road reconstruction estimated to cost Rs. 140 lakhs spread over five years was accordingly sanctioned.

and arrangements were made to finance it by a loan. Various modern methods of road construction are being used and over ten miles of road were entirely reconstructed in 1925-26 at a cost of Rs. 16·30 lakhs. In addition to this Rs. 5·04 lakhs were spent on new construction and Rs. 33·22 lakhs on repairs.

A reinforced concrete bridge over the Gumti river in the Shahjahanpur district was completed at a cost of Rs. 2·33 lakhs and communication between Lucknow and Cawnpore was facilitated by the construction of bridges over two dips in the old road which were liable to inundation in the rainy season. Work was also started on the construction of a new suspension bridge over the Ganges at Lachhmanjhula. The building of the old bridge which was washed away by the floods of 1924 was generously financed by Rai Bahadur Surajmal Jhunjhunwala. His grandson Rai Bahadur Sheopershad Tulshan of Calcutta has given Rs. 1·20 lakhs towards the new bridge which is estimated to cost Rs. 2·20 lakhs.

33. Among the more important buildings completed or under construction in 1925 and 1926 were the new factory for the postal workshops at Aligarh, completed at a cost of Rs. 2·47 lakhs, the intermediate college at Lucknow and the Government high school at Sultanpur. Of the large building programme for the Police Department which is being financed by a loan of one crore, six major buildings were completed and 25 were under construction. A wing was added to the Agricultural college, Cawnpore, and the buildings of the Government Carpentry school at Allahabad were completed. Work was commenced on the Harcourt Butler Technological Institute at Cawnpore, estimated to cost Rs. 4·45 lakhs, towards which subscriptions amounting to Rs. 1·20 lakhs have been raised. The Provincial Hygiene Institute at Lucknow and the new Archaeological Museum at Muttra were also commenced during the year.

Buildings.

34. The increased demand for electricity has compelled the supply companies at Cawnpore, Allahabad, Lucknow and Agra to increase their plant capacity. Licences were granted in 1926 to the municipalities of Gorakhpur, Bareilly, Aligarh and

Electricity.

Hardwar and applications from Jhansi and Shahjahanpur were under consideration.

Organiza-
tion of Pub-
lic Works
Depart-
ment.

35. In 1925-26 the Dehra Dun division and all sub divisions except those of Dehra Dun, Garhwal and Almora were abolished. The Gonda division, which was abolished in April, 1925, was re-opened as a temporary measure in August, 1926 owing to the large building programme of the Police Department. All local roads in the Naini Tal and Almora districts were transferred to the district boards concerned. On the other hand, the intra-municipal roads at Allahabad were again taken over by the Public Works Department and the condition of a large number of the more important local roads has led to a repeated demand that they too should be maintained by the department. In the absence of reliable architects and contractors, heads of departments who have not themselves some knowledge of the building industry find their responsibility for the maintenance and construction of buildings in their charge increasingly burdensome.

THE CO OPERATIVE MOVEMENT.

Administra-
tion.

36. The report of the Co-operative Committee appointed in November, 1925 was published in February, 1926. The conclusions reached were that the co-operative movement in the province was generally lacking in vitality owing chiefly to defective organization and supervision of primary societies by the bank staffs, insufficient propaganda and the inadequacy of the Co-operative Department's staff.

The necessity for an increase in staff has been recognized and in September, 1926 the number of auditors was raised from 33 to 52. The other recommendations of the committee have in the main been accepted by Government and as a preliminary measure it is proposed, subject to the vote of the Legislative Council, to make additional appointments of one deputy registrar, four assistant registrars and fourteen inspectors with effect from April 1, 1927.

It was also recommended by the committee that the organization and supervision of societies be transferred from the central banks to a provincial committee. This proposal, which would remove the supervisors from the sole control of the

central banks and would relieve the latter of considerable expense, is under discussion.

37. Statistics for the year 1925 show further steady if slow progress. The number of societies rose from 6,000 to 6,238 of which 5,899 were agricultural societies. The total membership increased from 161,140 to 164,589 and the working capital from Rs. 180.57 lakhs to Rs. 188.49 lakhs. The amount of capital involved in the movement increased slightly to Rs. 116.81 lakhs of which the percentage owned by the societies was 54.2 compared with 52.2 in the previous year. This is one of the satisfactory features of the year. Progress in
1925-26.

The process of weeding out unsound societies was continued and 151 societies were liquidated during the year. There was a decrease of Rs. 98,000 in the amount of arrears due to central banks but arrears due from their members to agricultural credit societies rose from Rs. 21.35 lakhs to Rs. 22.03 lakhs. One central society was amalgamated with the district bank at Fyzabad and the Hindustan Co-operative Stores had to be dissolved owing to lack of interest on the part of its directors and to the failure to organize an adequate number of primary societies. Idle balances show a satisfactory decrease. Over 600 primary agricultural societies paid dividends ranging from 3½ per cent. to ten per cent. and 300 have reduced the rate of interest charged to their members from 15½ per cent. to rates varying between 7½ per cent. and 12½ per cent.

Two more societies for the consolidation of agricultural holdings were registered in 1926 making a total of three such societies, all in the Saharanpur district. Elsewhere this form of society has not established itself. The position of non-credit societies with the exception of the societies of durrie makers at Agra did not improve. The housing society at Cawnpore went into voluntary liquidation, the two dairy societies at Benares and Lucknow are moribund and only two out of eleven general stores societies are working satisfactorily.

38. The future is hopeful. The Oakden Committee has detected the main causes of stagnation and has advocated important reforms which the Government have accepted. In Future
progress.

the next two years the staff will be largely increased and will, it is hoped, be sufficient to tackle the main problem of invigorating the primary societies.

EDUCATION.

General
develop-
ment.

39. The rate of progress achieved during the past few years was exceeded in 1925-26 when the number of scholars increased by over 100,000 to nearly 1,300,000. More than a thousand new schools were opened and expenditure increased by nearly 10 lakhs to 313·54 lakhs. Of this sum over one half was contributed by Government and it is a matter for regret that private contributions have diminished. Although the year was not without benefactions to education the universities in particular have not received much assistance from private sources and are still content to turn to Government for help.

The passing of the United Provinces Primary Education Act (I of 1926) marked a further advance towards the goal of universal free and compulsory education for boys. By this Act district boards are empowered to introduce compulsory education in rural areas in the same way as municipalities were empowered in urban areas by the United Provinces Primary Education Act of 1919. Twenty-three municipal boards have introduced compulsory education, but owing to the leniency with which the Act is administered, the results have not realized expectations. A number of district boards introduced free primary education on a voluntary basis but with little success. The resources of most boards are not equal to providing free education without such help from Government as they would receive for the introduction of compulsory education. Those that try to do so find that while their income from fees is lost their expenses have increased. An inspector has recently been placed on special duty to examine the progress of compulsory education in municipal schools.

The Agra University Act, the objects of which were described in the reports for previous years, was passed in September, 1926.

40. A notable feature of the year was the introduction of instruction in agriculture and manual training in vernacular middle schools. Ten teachers deputed by ten district boards to attend the agricultural class at the School of Agriculture, Bulandshahr, completed their training in 1925 and another ten are now under instruction. Nine district boards with the help of Government have opened agricultural classes in vernacular middle schools. Fifteen teachers completed a course of manual training at Lucknow in 1926 and fifteen more are under training. Compulsory science has been introduced in eleven more government English schools and there are now 68 schools in which science is a compulsory subject. A deterioration in the standard of English, probably due to the abolition of English as the medium of teaching, is to some extent balanced by the increase in the number of English classes opened with government aid in vernacular middle schools. Thirty-seven such classes were opened in 1926. Funds have been provided for the creation of a bureau for the translation of books into the vernacular languages and for the establishment of libraries in vernacular middle schools.

The health of the scholars has not been neglected. As an experimental measure ten whole-time visiting doctors have been appointed in ten cities and the report of the special committee appointed to examine the system of physical training in schools is under the consideration of Government.

41. An increase of over 500 in the number of university students is shared by all the four universities. At Allahabad a new course leading to a degree with honours in Science was instituted. An important reform was the conferment on the proctor of the university of magisterial powers to deal with petty offences committed by students. At Lucknow courses of study in Hindi and Urdu have been prescribed for the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and a general test in English has been made compulsory for all Arts and Science students. The degrees of the Aligarh Muslim University are now recognized by all Indian universities and also, with the exception of Cambridge, by the universities of Great Britain. Two appointments in the departments of History and Industrial Chemistry

University
education.

were made at Benares, where also a hostel capable of accommodating 100 women students has been completed. General technical training has to some extent displaced specialization in the Thomason Engineering college, Roorkee. Science blocks are being built at the Bareilly college (through the generosity of a private benefactor) and at the Dayanand Anglo-Vedic college, Cawnpore. Two more state scholarships for study abroad have been sanctioned.

**Secondary
education**

42. A substantial advance was made in secondary education. While the number of intermediate colleges remained unchanged the number of students rose by nearly 600 to 4,107. The number of English high and middle schools increased by three to a total of 228, and of scholars by 4,235 to a total of 62,409. Although the percentage of trained teachers is rising it is reported that the benefits which might be expected from a larger number of trained teachers are discounted by their lack of real interest in their work. The introduction of the vernacular as a medium for instruction has not entirely had the desired result. It has led to a deterioration in the standard of English and has given rise to a hybrid which is neither English nor the vernacular. Science and Commerce are favourite subjects in high and middle schools but manual training is not proving attractive.

The Boy Scouts movement continued to make progress but was marked by a tendency to communalism. The idea of public service needs to be instilled into the teachers no less than into the boys. Where the teacher is not content to be merely a wage-earner he is sometimes possessed of distorted ideals as in the case of the scout master who gave prizes for the best "good turn" done in the week.

**Primary
schools**

43. The number of scholars at primary schools increased to nearly one million. The number of schools rose to 18,220 but very many of these are either without buildings of any kind or with mere apologies for buildings in the shape of dark and airless huts. Many schools are overstaffed and in one district alone it is reported that over one thousand fictitious names were removed from the roll. Generally speaking boards are more anxious to obtain good results on paper than to consolidate the ground already won.

44. There was a substantial rise in the number and enrolment of schools for girls. A disquieting feature is the difficulty of obtaining women teachers. The tendency of local boards to decrease their contributions for female education does not encourage women to enter the profession.

Girls' schools.

Three women lecturers were appointed at the Allahabad University for the students of the Crosthwaite college, Allahabad. The Isabella Thoburn college cleared off a large building debt with the help of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church which relieved the college of debts amounting to over Rs. 4 lakhs.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

45. While the year 1925 was not so healthy as 1923 there was an improvement over 1924. That improvement was maintained in 1926. In 1925 a fall in the birth-rate from 34.72 to 32.73 was balanced by a fall in the death-rate from 28.29 to 24.78. In 1926 a slight rise in the death-rate to 24.86 was accompanied by a rise in the birth-rate to 33.24.

Births and deaths.

Cholera was more severe in the districts under the special cholera scheme than in the previous year but the total number of deaths for the province did not rise above the figure for 1925. The death-rate from plague which had fallen to 1.08 in 1925 rose to 1.47. Small-pox continued to increase, the number of deaths from this disease rising from 2,724 in 1924 to 9,373 in 1925 and 13,400 in 1926. Deaths due to respiratory diseases again increased and there is no doubt that many deaths from pneumonia and tuberculosis are reported as due to fever. The rate of infantile mortality which fell from 192.00 in 1924 to 175.51 in 1925 rose again to 179.02 in 1926. The figures for municipalities, and especially for Cawnpore where nearly one out of every two children died within a year of birth, continued very high.

46. The control of epidemic disease, the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases and research work on plague and malaria occupied the Public Health Department during 1925 and 1926.

Public health services.

In March, 1925 a special branch was established for dealing with malaria. Nearly all municipal and district medical officers of health have been trained in anti-malarial measures and district health officers made a number of village surveys. Quinine was supplied for free distribution where malaria existed in epidemic form, and Government have sanctioned a lakh of rupees for anti-malarial work in rural areas during 1926-27.

The special staff deputed for plague duty in 1925 carried out research work throughout 1926. The Indian Research Fund Association sanctioned two grants of Rs. 20,000 each for plague and cholera research. The number of inoculations against plague continues to rise. While public opposition to anti-plague measures has to some extent disappeared, such measures can be successfully undertaken only with the active support of the revenue and police authorities.

The past apathy of district boards towards vaccination is reflected in the continued increase in the number of deaths from small-pox which has already been described. In Allahabad it was found that 33 per cent. of the school children were not protected against this disease. Nevertheless nearly one and a half million persons were vaccinated in 1925-26 and the provincial lymph dépôt at Patwa Dangar issued lymph sufficient to vaccinate a million more.

All the principal fairs of the province were supervised by the personnel of the Public Health Department and neither in 1925 nor in 1926 were they the focus of any serious outbreak of epidemic disease. The number of districts which have adopted the district health scheme rose to seventeen during 1926. Others are waiting for the necessary funds. They feel that it is not only the expense of the staff for which provision must be made but that if they are fully to profit by the employment of the staff they must be prepared to incur further expense in carrying out the recommendations made by their health officers.

The Engineering section of the Public Health Department was chiefly occupied with the problems of municipal water supply and drainage. The Superintending Engineer had to

draw the special attention of many boards to the problems of water wastage and poor collections. Improvements to the water supplies at Agra, Allahabad, Cawnpore, Fyzabad, Hardwar, Mussoorie and Dehra Dun among others were completed or were under construction during 1926. At Allahabad there was a serious breakdown of the water supply during the rains. A sewage disposal scheme at Muttra and a flushing scheme at Moradabad were completed. Proposals for sewerage and sewage disposal at Allahabad, Benares, Cawnpore, Lucknow and Naini Tal are under consideration. The staff was also engaged in framing proposals for anti-malarial works at Basti, Phulpur, Anupshahr, Bareilly and other places. The temporary water supply for pilgrims at the *Magh mela* at Allahabad was successfully maintained.

At the end of 1926 the department had works to the value of Rs. 32 lakhs under construction in addition to works estimated at Rs. 20 lakhs which were being carried out by local bodies under the supervision of the department. Projects to the value of Rs. 102 lakhs were completed or were being prepared during the year. The Board of Public Health made grants of over Rs. 11 lakhs and loans of nearly Rs. 13 lakhs were sanctioned in 1926.

47. Fifty-one dispensaries were transferred either to the Public Health Department or to local bodies during 1925 and 1926. The latter, owing to their inability to meet the revised rates of pay of officers of the Provincial Medical service, have appointed their own medical officers on lower rates of pay. Medical services.

The number of out-patients treated in 1925 fell from 5,379,189 to 5,293,774. There was, however, a rise of 700 in the number of in-patients and of 1,500 in the number of surgical operations.

The campaign against leprosy and tuberculosis was continued. The accommodation at the King Edward Sanatorium at Bhowali was enlarged to 80 beds in 1925 and in the same year Government sanctioned a scheme for the establishment of tuberculosis dispensaries in the plains for the treatment of the disease in its early stage. Five such dispensaries were opened in 1926 at an annual recurring cost of Rs. 4,338 each. A

provincial committee has been appointed by the Government to administer the funds for the leprosy campaign and the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association has given a grant of Rs. 5,640 for leper hospitals in this province.

To meet the needs of the rural population subsidies are given to private practitioners who agree to settle down in rural areas. In 1926 there were 30 practitioners in receipt of a subsidy. Subsidies were also given to local boards towards the maintenance of ten new dispensaries.

Other developments of the year include the establishment in November, 1926 of the United Provinces State Medical Faculty to replace the old Board of Medical Examinations. The new institution is authorized to confer diplomas and to issue licences or certificates testifying to the qualifications of the holder for the practice of Western medical science.

**Maternity
and child-
welfare.**

48. The number of maternity and child-welfare centres increased by 22. In many districts this work is done on the lines laid down by the United Provinces branch of the Lady Chelmsford League, while in others, schemes varied to suit local conditions are doing equally good work. The strength of the appeal made by this movement is reflected in the readiness with which subscriptions are forthcoming. In 1926, 22 probationer midwives out of 23 candidates passed the *dar* and midwives examination.

TOWN IMPROVEMENT.

49. In spite of financial limitations the three improvement trusts at Allahabad, Cawnpore and Lucknow continued to make steady progress. Expenses have been considerably reduced and Allahabad and Lucknow are fortunate in having honorary chairmen.

50. At Allahabad the work of land acquisition is now carried out by the district revenue staff. This has had the effect of removing some of the prejudice against the trust, but it naturally causes some delay. Progress was therefore not so rapid as was hoped. Nevertheless, the Rambagh and Bairana schemes were completed during the year. A public bath is included in the latter. Progress was made in the Katra housing

scheme and plots of land to the value of more than one lakh of rupees were sold. The Minhajpur scheme was also taken in hand and three more important schemes were sanctioned. The extension of the Zero road to Johnstonganj awaits the completion of the land acquisition proceedings. In connexion with the South Malaka plan a large number of building plots are ready for sale and the Roshan Khan-ka-Bagh scheme will provide accommodation for *gwalas* and their cattle.

At Cawnpore the trust and the municipal board have come to an agreement upon the Dhankutti scheme which will open up communications and improve a very dirty and insanitary area. Work will be commenced as soon as the land has been acquired. A start was made on the Nazirbagh-Ghusiana area adjacent to the city. The object of the scheme is to clear the area of Ghosis and develop it for building purposes. For the dispossessed Ghosis modern sanitary quarters will be provided. The most important development of the year was the approval by the municipal board of the Birhana-Nachghar scheme which is the largest that the trust has taken in hand. By the construction of a main road and subsidiary roads and the opening up of insanitary areas the scheme will provide better traffic facilities for the city and will allow more light and air to the Birhana-Nachghar quarter. Owing to the inability of the municipality to supply water to the Sisamau area, a tube well has been constructed. The site is growing in popularity and a number of plots have been sold to government servants at concession rates. In view of the fact that the vital statistics, especially those of infantile mortality, indicate that Cawnpore is a peculiarly suitable field for the operations of an improvement trust, it is to be regretted that the municipal board were unable to make their promised contribution of one lakh to the trust.

At Lucknow considerable progress was made on the sixth section of the new sanitary road which is nearing completion. Several other roads were completed or under construction during the year. The Barudkhana housing scheme was completed and the majority of the sites disposed of. Progress was made on the Mawaiya housing scheme and in Narhai a portion of the development area was sold to a co-operative

52. In 1926-27 a further remission of Rs. 33 lakhs alleviated the position to some extent but unexpected expenditure in the form of arrears of interest, due to a change in the dates of payment decided upon by the Central Government, and charges on account of military pensions and commutations of which no notice had been given at the time of framing the budget, have caused the anticipated expenditure for the current year to exceed the estimate by more than Rs. 28 lakhs, and the closing balance is now estimated at Rs. 15.78 lakhs. The budget forecast of 1927-28 is no more encouraging. It anticipates an excess of charges over receipts of Rs. 28.80 lakhs to which a minimum working balance computed at Rs. 15.01 lakhs and the provision of Rs. 13 lakhs for the balance of the Famine insurance fund must be added. The total deficit will thus be Rs. 56.81 lakhs, to cover which an advance will be necessary.

The only hope of relief lies in further remissions of the contribution due to the Central Government. An original contribution of Rs. 240 lakhs has been reduced in two years to Rs. 151 lakhs. Had it never been more than this the unsatisfactory position now confronting the province would probably not have arisen. There is one other satisfactory feature. In eight years the province will be freed from the annual payment of Rs. 25 lakhs which represents the amount appropriated to the repayment of debts incurred before the introduction of the reforms.

EXCISE

53. The year 1925-26 was, like its predecessor, characterized by a substantial fall in the consumption of nearly all excisable articles. Issues of country spirit declined for the fifth year in succession. Since 1919 sales have decreased by 63 per cent. and revenue has fallen from Rs. 106 lakhs to Rs. 51 lakhs. There was little variation in the issue of hemp drugs, but the high price of opium compelled consumers to be content with smaller quantities and for the eighth year in succession there was a fall in consumption. On the other hand, the high price of country spirit caused an increase in the consumption of *tari* in the eastern districts. The contribution to excise revenue per head of population was four annas and six pies which, with one exception, is lower than in any other province.

Consumption.

Policy

54. To the restrictive policy of Government enforced at a large sacrifice of revenue is due the great advance in temperance disclosed by the figures of consumption and revenue since 1919. During the year under review the number of excise shops was again reduced in furtherance of that policy. There are dangers, however, in the adoption of a policy which is far in advance of public opinion. The high price of country liquor has caused a large increase in the volume of illicit distillation, and a greater consumption of cheap foreign-made liquors. The smuggling of *charas* has increased and excise opium, which is sold at Rs. 120 per seer, is being extensively adulterated with Malwa opium and other substances. The most disquieting feature of the year, however, is the evidence that the cocaine habit is spreading and has penetrated to the poorer classes.

Excise crime.

55. The total number of prosecutions for excise offences fell from 2,622 to 2,342. The decrease is accounted for by a fall of 353 in the number of prosecutions for the unlawful manufacture, import and possession of country liquor, a fact which is, unfortunately, not due to a real decrease in evasions of the law but to the abolition of the special staff for dealing with them. The smuggling of opium from vendors' shops has practically ceased but offences relating to cocaine increased by eighteen per cent. to 312. There were 44 cases under the Opium Smoking Act of 1925 which has been effective in putting down *madak* and *chandu* dens. Prosecutions for drunkenness numbered only 933. These figures relate to the financial year 1925-26, but there is clear indication that the tendency for excise offences to increase still persists.

Administration.

56. The number of elected municipal representatives on each licensing board has been raised from two to five, and eight of the total membership of ten are now elected. The chairmen of three licensing boards have been nominated as members of the provincial excise board. Licensing boards and advisory committees continued to perform a useful duty. All the recommendations of the licensing boards and practically all those of the advisory committees in regard to the opening and closure of shops were accepted.

The total expenditure rose from Rs. 5.94 lakhs to Rs. 6.61 lakhs owing mainly to increments in the pay of inspectors under the time-scale. The cost of administration was 5.2 per cent. of the net revenue.

The sale of country spirit in sealed bottles for consumption "off" the premises has been extended and is now in force in sixteen cities and one rural area. Arrangements have been completed for its extension to two more cities. The surcharge system for the assessment of licence fees on the sale of foreign liquor has been applied to shops, hotels, refreshment rooms and restaurants.

57. The restrictive excise policy of Government can only be carried out with full success by a fully trained and honest staff with adequate prospects. By granting a time-scale of pay in 1925 the Government have encouraged excise inspectors to work more zealously and honestly. If in addition to this they receive the co-operation and support which they are entitled to look for from the public, the continued success of the temperance policy of Government will be assured. **Conclusion.**

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

58. The district boards continue to be crippled by their financial limitations. In the case of 30 of the 48 boards the recurring expenditure exceeds the recurring income. The remaining boards have a small margin, but so far from admitting of an expansion of activities on any large scale, this barely suffices in most cases for the provision of the most urgent original works which the district requires. Those boards in which expenditure exceeds income are for the most part living on their reserves and it is doubtful whether the members of the board realize the gravity of the position. Only in a few cases, under the pressure of imminent bankruptcy, are the boards taking steps to impose additional taxation. Unfortunately, however, the amount which they can raise by additional taxation, if in the end the boards face this necessity, is comparatively small and will do little more than enable them to cover the recurring cost of their present standard of administration. **District boards.**

Apart from financial difficulties the maintenance of the existing standard imposes a strain upon the boards' system of administration. The interest of the majority of members is confined to attendance at meetings in which minor questions concerning the appointments, transfers and punishments of subordinate officials absorb a disproportionate amount of time. The boards do not yet realize the necessity for maintaining well qualified officers on reasonable rates of pay. They interfere with their officers on small points of administrative detail and their administration is weakened by a general lack of supervision. The number of outdoor inspections made by members is very disappointing. Although their agenda is overloaded and important questions are constantly postponed, the boards view with jealousy the delegation of their powers to sub-committees or tahsil committees.

On the other hand the majority of members are the most able and intelligent men in the constituencies which they represent. Their interest in education is very real but in most cases quality is sacrificed to quantity and progress is sought by increasing the numbers of schools and scholars rather than by providing satisfactory buildings and properly qualified teachers for those that exist.

The condition of the roads continues to evoke widespread complaints. The difficulties of systematic repairing have not yet been met and boards do not realize that the first essential is a consistent programme of maintenance with repair allotments which do not greatly vary from year to year. Careful supervision by the chairman and executive staff is no less necessary.

Credit is due to the non-official chairmen for the way in which they have contended with the many personal and party difficulties which hamper their administrative activities. In some quarters it is felt that the term of three years is too short. No well considered constructive programme can be drawn up, for within a year or two with the election of a new board it would probably be disregarded. There is no provision for continuity of policy similar to that made in England by the election of aldermen. Further, the complaint of one chairman that he does not receive sufficient help from the district officials

suggests that the total divorce of the boards from the permanent executive is not altogether satisfactory. One officer, on the analogy of the standing joint committee in England, recommends the establishment of a divisional board, on which both district boards and district officers would be represented, to deal with communications, public health, cattle disease, and other matters not of purely local concern.

Side by side with the need for the development of a sense of responsibility on the part of members towards their constituents there is an even greater need for the growth of public interest in district board affairs. Signs of awakening interest are not wanting, and with its development there is hope that the boards will justify more fully their position of responsibility.

59. Generally speaking, the condition of the municipalities of the province is decidedly hopeful. Greater interest on the part of members is reflected in the satisfactory attendance at meetings; and a reduction in the number of adjourned and abortive meetings as well as in the total number of meetings held indicates that procedure is more businesslike. This statement, however, must be qualified in respect of a few of the larger cities, among which Allahabad with 87 meetings in the year is the most conspicuous. At Lucknow 40 per cent. of the meetings were adjourned for want of a quorum. Unnecessary meetings and adjournments destroy the enthusiasm of members. The remedy is in the hands of the chairmen.

Municipal
boards.

With a few exceptions there was a further improvement in the financial position of the boards. The total indebtedness was again reduced and although there was a decrease in the amount of invested funds this was more than counterbalanced by a rise in the closing balance. Benares, Agra, Cawnpore and Meerut were able to show credit balances after meeting all their recurring expenditure as well as loan charges. The income from taxation from which the boards derive two-thirds of their income declined slightly but this decrease was more than made good by a rise in the income derived from municipal property. The decrease in the income from direct taxation, which is largely due to the unpopularity of such taxation and the unwillingness

of boards properly to enforce it, was greater than the increase in the income from terminal tax and toll and accounts for the fall in the total income from taxation. Although octroi was introduced in two more towns the total yield was less than in the previous year. Evasion and fraud are rife and in one town refunds amounted to 38 per cent. of the gross receipts. A more honest and efficient staff and closer supervision are required. Expenditure increased under every head except that of water supply. Roads and drainage alone were allotted nearly six lakhs more than in the previous year. Collections improved and in all but fifteen municipalities exceeded 70 per cent. Outstanding balances, however, are still heavy in the larger municipalities. Arrears of water-rate in particular are large and the special attention of the boards was drawn to this unsatisfactory feature of their administration by the Superintending Engineer of the Public Health Department. In Allahabad, one-third of the income was spent on the staff but in spite of this collections are poor.

Public services continue to improve. In addition to the towns in which electric lighting has been introduced, eight towns had electric supply schemes in various stages of development, most of which will be operated by private companies. The number of towns with a municipal water supply continues to increase and the boards are advancing to the realization of the fact that water supply should and can be made a paying proposition. Cawnpore in particular has done well. Except at Agra and Jhansi there was no shortage of water. At Allahabad there was a complete breakdown of the plant during the rainy season of 1926 and several months elapsed before the normal supply could be restored. With a few exceptions, municipalities are making considerable efforts to improve their roads. Lucknow has a complete programme for the construction of bitumen bound roads and Agra has applied for funds for the construction of similar roads there. Many boards, however, are still inclined to neglect their duties in this direction and several were ready to divert to other purposes money allotted for roads. It is satisfactory to note the increased attention paid to maternity and child welfare. In 51 towns there are hospitals

giving instructions in midwifery and 38 cities held baby weeks. Infantile mortality generally decreased, notably in Cawnpore, where, however, the rate is still very high owing to the insanitary condition of the industrial quarters.

The internal work of the boards continues to be hampered by communal bias and party faction. Nepotism is not uncommon and boards are loth to use to the full the powers given to them for the enforcement of bye-laws, the collection of dues and the punishment of their subordinates. In no less than 36 municipalities, including almost all the important boards, the condition of the accounts, especially of those connected with water supply, public works and advances, was unsatisfactory. Embezzlements increased owing to inadequate supervision and failure to enforce compliance with the rules. These facts indicate that though the boards are making good progress in many directions there is still much room for improvement in others.

60. Opinions of the value of the village *panchayat* are extraordinarily diverse. In some districts they are condemned as an anachronism of little practical use, while in others efforts are being made to establish one in every village.

Village
panchayats.

On some points, however, there is general agreement. The object of the Village Panchayat Act was to revive the old village council for the settlement of village disputes. The figures show that a large number of cases are being decided by the *panchayats*. But at the same time the ordinary criminal and civil litigation continues to increase, and it is a question whether, by affording more facilities for petty litigation, the Act has not contributed to the growth of an evil which it was intended to check. On the other hand there is reason to believe that by providing the village money-lender with an inexpensive means of recovering his dues and so increasing his sense of security, *panchayats* are having the effect of reducing the local rates of interest. The chief difficulty is that of finding *panches* who command the respect of their fellows. Faction and intrigue make many *panchayats* incapable of useful work, but where care is exercised in the selection of the *panches* very satisfactory results have been achieved.

It is in administration that the chief utility of the *panchayat* must be sought. They have done much in matters connected with petty village improvements and can do more still to further the causes of sanitation and co-operative credit. But they need encouragement; and while there are those who, admitting the comparative failure of *panchayats*, attribute it to the fact that the official hand is too much in evidence both in the appointment of *panches* and in their supervision, there is little doubt that the success or failure of the movement varies directly with the interest or indifference of the district staff.

The process of weeding out unsatisfactory *panchayats* has been practically completed and the total number of *panchayats* in 1925-26 rose to 3,948, while the population affected by them increased by one and a half millions to nearly seven millions.

CONCLUSION.

61. The events of the year 1926 reviewed above will have far-reaching effects. The Agra Tenancy Act, a measure of compromise in which all the three parties interested in the land surrendered something in order to secure the future welfare of all, will re-act directly upon every rural home in the province of Agra. Less perceptible but no less real will be the effect upon the whole province of the year's activities in the fields of agriculture, public health, education, industrial development and co-operative progress. The causes of the comparative failure of the co-operative movement in the province have been ascertained and the way is clear for substantial development. The finding of the Burn Committee that the work of the Industries Department has been conducted on sound lines has given Government the guarantee necessary to justify further expansion. The passing of the District Boards Primary Education Act was an important step in the march towards the goal of universal free and compulsory education. A wider comprehension of the necessity for sanitary improvements in rural areas is paving the way for the introduction of compulsory vaccination and the adoption of other forms of protection against epidemic diseases.

But there are clouds upon what would otherwise be a bright prospect. Communal tension is deep-rooted and it is too early yet to regard the recent improvement as permanent. Secondly,

there is the problem of unemployment among the educated classes. By encouraging scientific agriculture and industrial development Government are doing what they can, but a change in the attitude of educated youth towards all forms of manual labour is essential. Finally, the financial position of the province is far from satisfactory. Remissions of contribution have enabled the transferred departments to expand their activities, but for further progress a radical improvement in the situation is necessary—an improvement which is not at present in sight.

PART II.—DETAILED CHAPTERS.

INTRODUCTORY.

The following subjects are dealt with once every ten years. Except for changes of importance described in the reports of succeeding years, the latest information about them is embodied in the General Administration Report for 1921-22 and will be found in that report on the pages shown below :—

	<i>Pages.</i>
(1) Physical features, area, climate and chief staples of the province	1—11
(2) Historical summary	14—64
(3) Form of administration	64—66
(4) Character of land tenures	67—72
(5) Civil divisions of British territory	72—73
(6) Details of the last census	73—78
(7) Legislative authority	93—95
(8) General system of public instruction	153—160
(9) Literary societies	172—173
(10) Ecclesiastical jurisdiction	176—178

CHAPTER I.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND CONDITIONS.

1. Changes in the Administration.

1. His Excellency Sir William Marris, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., continued to hold charge of the province throughout 1925 and 1926, except from August 14 to November 30, 1926, when he was on leave. During his absence Sir Sam O'Donnell, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., acted as Governor.

The office of Finance Member was held by Sir Sam O'Donnell until April 3, 1925, when he took four months' leave. During his absence Sir Selwyn Fremantle, C.S.I., C.I.E., acted as Finance Member. Sir Richard Burn, C.S.I., acted as Finance Member from August 14 to November 30, 1926. Maharaja Sir Muhammad Ali Muhammad Khan, Khan Bahadur,

K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., of Mahmudabad, continued as Home Member until the expiry of his term of office on January 3, 1926, when he was succeeded by Lieutenant Nawab Muhammad Ahmad Sa'id Khan, C.I.E., M.B.E., of Chhatari. Transferred subjects were administered in 1925 by Nawab Muhammad Ahmad Sa'id Khan, in charge of Industries and Agriculture, and by Rai Rajeshwar Bali, O.B.E., who held the portfolios of Education and Local Self-Government. In January 1926, when Nawab Muhammad Ahmad Sa'id Khan became Home Member an additional Minister was appointed and transferred subjects were administered—Education by Rai Rajeshwar Bali, Local Self-Government by Nawab Muhammad Yusuf, Barrister-at-Law, and Agriculture by Thakur Rajendra Singh. The same three Ministers were re-appointed in January, 1927, after the general election.

2. Character of the year.

(See Government resolution on Revenue Administration for the year ending September 30, 1925.)

Nature of
the weather
and its
effects on
crops.

2. The heavy autumn rains of 1924 which caused the floods described in last year's report were followed by scanty winter rains. The next monsoon, though above the normal in volume, was largely concentrated in the first two months of the rainy season. Heavy rain in October, however, improved conditions in the west of the province where the monsoon ceased even earlier than elsewhere. In the east the Bahraich district suffered from floods caused by unusually heavy rain in Nepal in August.

The dry winter caused an increase of six per cent. in the total irrigated area, the increase in the canal irrigated area being sixteen per cent.

The concentration of rainfall in the early part of the monsoon season damaged the autumn crops, the area of which was ten per cent. below normal. The area under early rice, maize, *juar*, *bajra* and sugarcane decreased and cotton suffered considerable damage. This was the more unfortunate as high prices had led to an increase of 60 per cent. in the area sown with cotton. The *kharif* crop was thus, apart from flood damage, below normal.

The area under spring crops was seven per cent. above normal, wheat alone being twenty per cent. in excess. This promising beginning, however, was affected by the shortage of winter rain and by frost with the result that the wheat crop was below normal. Barley was slightly above normal and gram normal. The spring crop was thus on the whole average.

3. The delay in the monsoon of 1924 caused a rise in prices in July which was accentuated by the floods of October. A drop in November was followed by a further rise in February and March, and though the arrival of the spring crop into the market caused another fall, prices at the end of the year were distinctly higher than at the beginning, wheat rising from 8½ seers to the rupee to 6½ and barley from 12½ to 9½. Prices.

4. The destruction by floods of the crops in the west of the province caused an inflow of grain into the districts affected. There was a brisk trade in rice in Gorakhpur following an excellent crop. While Cawnpore did not maintain the standard of the previous year, trade was not depressed. The condition of the roads in some districts hampers trade by increasing the cost of marketing, but in Almora the introduction of motor traffic has resulted in a fall in food prices. Trade.

The cultivation of jute was extended to the Kheri district after its success in Sitapur had been established.

5. The year was fairly healthy, the mortality being 12.11 lakhs against 12.13 lakhs in the previous year. Mortality from plague and cholera decreased. While it cannot be said that the increase in mortality from small-pox is directly due to the apathy of district boards towards vaccination, there is reason to believe that this apathy will lead to a continued increase in this disease. The floods of 1924 were followed by malaria in epidemic form in the areas affected. Health.

3. Indian States.

(See the annual reports on administration issued by the]
Rampur, Tehri and Benares States.)

RAMPUR.

6. The State was visited by His Excellency Sir William Marris on February 4, 1926, when he opened the Harcourt Notable events.

Butler weir on the Bhakra river. His Highness the Nawab visited Bombay in July 1925, where he received His Excellency the Viceroy on his return from Europe. In February, 1926, His Highness went to Delhi to bid farewell to Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Reading.

Donations of Rs. 30,000 and Rs. 10,000 were made by the State to the Leprosy Relief Fund and the Music college, Lucknow, respectively.

Conditions
of the year.

The floods of 1924 followed by scanty winter rains caused a sharp rise in food prices at the beginning of the year. On the other hand the demand for labour to repair the damage done by the floods kept wages up to the high level of the previous year. There was a slight fall in the birth rate which was, however, more than balanced by a fall in the death-rate.

Revenue
adminis-
tration

Excluding debt receipts and charges, the total income for the year was Rs. 51.69 lakhs and the total expenditure Rs. 56.52 lakhs. The unfavourable season accounted for part of the unrealized balance of Rs. 12 lakhs.

While there was a small increase in the area under cultivation, there was a fall in the prices paid by lessees with a consequent decrease of Rs. 76,000 in the demand for land revenue.

The consumption of liquor and *charas* decreased causing the excise demand on these two items to fall from Rs. 1.25 lakhs to Rs. 1.10 lakhs. There was, however, an increase of Rs. 45,000 from opium, due to an enhancement of seventeen rupees per seer in the cost price of opium to the State.

The number of liquor shops was one less than in the previous year. The number of *charas* and opium shops was unchanged. The Excise Department yielded a profit of Rs. 1.66 lakhs to the State.

Police.

The number of offences reported rose from 572 to 615, of which 358 were followed by prosecution. The increase was mainly confined to burglary, hurt and cattle theft. The State police received rewards totalling Rs. 922 from the British police. Of this sum Rs. 500 were given for the capture of a notorious dacoit who had escaped from the Agra jail.

The Ghorakhal water-works started in 1921-22 were completed during the year at a total cost of Rs. 1 54 lakhs. The quantity of water pumped by the state water-works was 70 million gallons. In the previous year it was 54 million gallons.

Public
works.

The Harcourt Butler weir on the Bhakra river, constructed at a cost of over four lakhs of rupees, is the head of a new canal system designed to irrigate 32,000 acres of fertile soil.

There were eight more schools and 72 more scholars on the roll than in 1923 24. Nine candidates from the high school passed the high school examination and 29 scholars of the Madrasa Alia passed examinations of the Punjab University. Sixty-six books including sixteen manuscripts were added to the well-known state library which now possesses 23,618 books including 8,980 manuscripts.

Education.

TEHRI.

7. At the dissolution of the State Assembly on February 23, 1926, His Highness the Maharaja announced his intention of making a further extension of the franchise. The state forces were reorganized and increased during the year, whilst a retired officer of the Government of India reorganized the state secretariat. In accordance with the wishes of the State Assembly various cesses were abolished and several posts were reduced in the interests of retrenchment.

Notable
events.

The Political Agent, accompanied by the Deputy Commissioner of Garhwal, toured in the state at the invitation of the Darbar. In December, 1925, the Political Agent laid the stone of a memorial to Naik Gover Singh Negi, V.C.

The rainfall in this hill State was normal and both the spring and autumn crops were good. There was an increase in the number of births and a decrease in the number of deaths

General
conditions.

The total income was Rs. 20.23 lakhs and the total expenditure Rs. 15.55 lakhs. Owing to good seasons the collections were nearly double those of the previous year. The settlement operations were completed during the year and the system of collection was reorganized.

Revenue
administra-
tion

The Tehri-Garhwal Penal Code and the Treasure Trove Act were passed by the State Assembly during the year. On the

Law and
justice.

reorganization of the state forces the armed police force was amalgamated with the state forces, which cost Rs. 1.46 lakhs compared with Rs. 89,000 in the previous year. There was a slight increase in the number of offences reported which were 94 against 82 of the previous year.

Education

There was an increase in the number of scholars on the roll as compared with the previous year in all classes of schools. In primary schools the number rose from 2,772 to 3,156, and in the girls' school at Tehri from 22 to 70. Of Rs. 63,683 spent on education, Rs. 25,049 were spent on scholarships for technical and higher education.

Forests

The year 1925 was unfavourable to natural regeneration and consequently 125,000 deodars were planted against 76,000 in the previous year, whilst 30 maunds of seed compared with twelve maunds in the previous year were sown. The total gross receipts from forests were Rs. 6.98 lakhs and the total expenditure Rs. 1.70 lakhs.

The Tons forests which were leased to the Government 70 years ago were handed back to the State in the beginning of the year under report and yielded an income, including arrears of the past year, of Rs. 5.01 lakhs at a cost of Rs. 67,000.

BENARES.

General.

8. The state forces maintained at a cost of Rs. 1.81 lakhs were inspected twice during the year by the General Officer Commanding, Allahabad Independent Brigade Area. Fourteen Acts in force in British India were applied to the State.

Conditions
of the year.

A fairly even distribution of rainfall over the State as a whole produced good harvests. Prices, however, continued high. Public health was good, except for sporadic cases of cholera and plague in one district. The birth-rate was 23.25 and the death-rate 18.64 per thousand of population. The depression in the carpet industry continued.

Revenue
adminis-
tration

The total receipts for the year were Rs. 39.15 lakhs and the total expenditure Rs. 39.25 lakhs. Owing to the allocation of certain cesses to the newly formed district board at Bhadohi the

receipts under land revenue declined from Rs. 12·77 lakhs to Rs. 12·17 lakhs. A part of the increase of Rs. 10 lakhs in the figure of total receipts over that of last year is due to the fact that war bonds of the value of Rs. 5 lakhs fell due for repayment. A loan of Rs. 2 lakhs was also recovered during the year. On the expenditure side a sum of Rs. 4·25 lakhs borrowed from the Maharaja was repaid to him.

There was a slight increase in the receipts from the sales of liquor, *ganja* and *bhang*, while the sales of opium and *charas* declined. Smuggling continued and the aid of the United Provinces Excise Department was required. As a result of the enforcement of higher prices there has been a decline in the sale of all drugs. There was a slight increase in the income from stamps, excise and registration.

The State was happily free from the communal dissension which was a marked feature of the year elsewhere. The number of offences reported rose from 622 to 670, the increase being most marked where the depression in the carpet industry had thrown the weavers out of work. The chief increase is under bulgary (20), the increase being otherwise confined to less serious forms of crime. **Security.**

There was an increase of 78 in the number of scholars on the roll of high schools. Thirteen passed the high school examination. There were 86 vernacular schools with a roll of 7,602 scholars, while the two Sanskrit pathshalas maintained by the State had three more students than in the previous year. **Education.**

The number of in-patients treated at the state hospitals and dispensaries rose from 1,811 to 2,242 and of out-patients from 82,438 to 87,453. The number of operations performed on in-patients rose from 615 to 1,358. In 1922-23 the number was 473. **Medical.**

Three hundred and twenty-six co-operative credit societies with 5,240 members existed at the close of the year—an increase of nine over the previous year. Efforts are being made to remove the apathy and mistrust which hamper the working of many of the societies. **Co-operative banks.**

4. Foreign relations.

9. Complaints received from Bhotia traders that they were being harassed in their trade in Tibet led to permission being given to Mr. Ruttledge, Deputy Commissioner, Almora, to visit that country in 1926. There is reason to hope that his visit will be followed by at least a temporary amelioration of the conditions in which British subjects carry on their trade in the markets across the border.

A boundary dispute between Tehri and Tibet which originally arose in 1914 was revived in 1921 and 1922 when a Tibetan official collected a poll tax from a number of persons claimed as their subjects by the Tehri Darbar. In 1926 Mr. Acton, I.C.S., was deputed to visit the area in dispute and report on the position.

Reports from both the officers named are now under the consideration of the Government of India.

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

5. Realization of the land revenue.

(See the Government resolution on Revenue Administration for the year ending September 30, 1925)

10. Excluding collections under the head "Government estates" the total revenue demand for collection fell from Rs. 906 lakhs to Rs. 896 lakhs chiefly on account of a decrease of Rs. 16 lakhs in the *tagavi* demand. Some ten lakhs were remitted and Rs. 1·8 lakhs suspended or postponed and of the net demand 99·7 per cent. was collected, leaving an outstanding balance of Rs. 2·7 lakhs.

Total
demand and
collections.

11. The real land revenue demand rose from Rs. 686·06 lakhs to Rs. 689·23 lakhs of which Rs. 9·92 lakhs were remitted principally on account of damage done by floods and Rs. 0·38 lakhs was suspended. All the net demand except Rs. 4,710 was collected. The land revenue on the roll which had risen by Rs. 3·34 lakhs during the previous year was further increased during the year under review by Rs. 1·90 lakhs, partly owing to the re-settlement of the Muttra district.

Land
revenue

12. The late arrival of the monsoon and the shortage of winter rain led to a rise in the occupiers' rate from Rs. 94·99 to Rs. 97·55 lakhs. Of the total demand of Rs. 98·27 lakhs under irrigation rates the whole with the exception of Rs. 0·22 lakhs was collected. The local rate of Rs. 72·37 lakhs was collected practically in full.

Irrigation
and local
rates

13. Under Act XII of 1884 Rs. 34·45 lakhs were disbursed of which Rs. 20·71 lakhs were distributed free of interest in the areas affected by floods. In addition to this Rs. 6·40 lakhs were given as irrecoverable relief. There was thus an increase of Rs. 24·80 lakhs in the amount distributed in the year. Under Act XIX Rs. 2·95 lakhs were distributed against Rs. 1·61 lakhs in the previous year. The total principal under both Acts at

Advances.

the end of the year was Rs. 65·33 lakhs compared with Rs. 45·31 lakhs outstanding at the beginning.

With the help of the advances under Act XIX work was done on 1,212 wells. The total number of new masonry wells constructed during the year, however, was 12,409 the majority of which were constructed in the east of the province where little *tagavi* is taken. Collections were 93 per cent. of the demand against 84 per cent. in the previous year. The outstanding fact was that Rs. 3·42 lakhs due from Muttra district, the greater part of which had been due for ten or more years, was collected in full. The accounts system is capable of improvement, and Government are considering the issue of new rules.

Coercive
processes.

14. The number of coercive processes employed during the year fell from 222,000 to 193,000. The decrease was shared by all forms of processes except transfer to a co-sharer and sale of property. The latter increased from 16 to 33 of which 25 were sold in order to recover *tagavi*.

6. Settlements.

15. Record operations were in progress in the districts of Agra, Budaun, Lucknow, Unao, Rae Bareli, Hardoi, Partabgarh, Bara Banki and Garhwal. The settlement operations in the Muttra district were completed during the year. The settlements in the districts of Agra, Unao, Partabgarh, Bara Banki, Budaun, Rae Bareli and Lucknow which were closed by Government in order to give the Legislative Council an opportunity of codifying the settlement law, were re-opened in 1926 on the failure of the Council to pass the Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill in a form which Government could accept.

7. Land records.

(See the report on the Administration of Land Records for the year ending September 30, 1925.)

General.

16. In the light of the recommendations of a committee of revenue officers appointed to examine proposals made by the

Land Records Department with a view to reducing and simplifying the work of patwaris, Government introduced important changes in the rules for the preparation of the principal records. The *khewat* and *khatauni* will now be entirely re-written once in four years instead of every year. A quadrennial *khaskra* is also being tried experimentally in nine districts.

As a result of the shortage of survey amins owing to the large number of districts under record operations a new class for the training of candidates to work as survey amins was opened under the supervision of the principal of the Qanungo Training school. Provision has been made for the admission to the Qanungo Training school of patwaris who have worked as survey amins.

17. The number of supervisor qanungos was reduced by four in the year and that of registrars and their assistants by seven. Owing to a re-allocation of circles in Muttra district the number of patwaris and their assistants decreased by 33 with a saving of Rs. 5,304 a year.

Establish-
ment.

18. One qanungo inspector was selected as an approved candidate for the post of tahsildar. The senior diplomate of the Qanungo Training school was again selected direct for appointment as naib-tahsildar. Two sadr qanungos officiated as tahsildars and one as inspector of qanungos. Four supervisor qanungos were appointed as permanent and forty as officiating naib-tahsildars.

Qanungos.

Eight supervisor qanungos were appointed survey experts; one was promoted to the post of nazul naib-tahsildar and one to that of naib-tahsildar of co-operative banks.

19. The percentage of qualified patwaris rose from 96.90 to 97.03 and there was an all round improvement in the examination results. The class of candidates for the patwari school at Almora continued to be inferior. The school at Muttra was closed and that at Naini Tal re-opened during the year. There was an improvement in the number of resident patwaris who were 81.73 per cent. compared with 81.56 per cent. in the previous year.

Patwaris.

Eight patwaris were promoted as permanent, and over eighty officiated as assistant registrar qanungos. There were 115 patwaris officiating as supervisor qanungos.

The testing
of records.

20. Gazetted officers of the district staffs again did more checking of the records than in the previous year. While the amount of testing done by tahsildars and naib-tahsildars was less than in the previous year, the percentage of errors detected by them indicates that their test was more thorough.

Some experienced officers again record their opinion that the reduction in the supervising staff has had a serious effect on the records. While the revenue staff is now mainly responsible for checking the records, the curtailment of their touring period must necessarily limit the field of their activities.

There is still room for improvement in the thoroughness of the checking done by sub-divisional officers.

Maps and
boundary
maps

21. An inquiry is going on with a view to the general overhauling of village maps which have been shown in some districts, especially those under permanent settlement, to be in an unsatisfactory condition. The state of boundary marks was good as was also that of tahsil registers.

8. Waste lands.

22. There is nothing of importance to record.

9. Government estates.

(See reports on the Tarai and Bhabar and the Garhwal-Bhabar estates and also the report on estates under the control of the Board of Revenue for the year ending March 31, 1926.)

Tarai and
Bhabar.

23. The monsoon of 1925 gave an increased rainfall in the Tarai balanced by a decreased fall in the Bhabar. The late cessation of the monsoon of 1924 delayed *rabi* sowings. As a result the *rabi* in the Bhabar gave an average yield while that in the Tarai was considerably below average. Early sown rice did well on account of the early cessation of the monsoon, while cotton, maize and chillies were damaged by heavy rain in July and August. The *rabi* yield was nine annas in the rupee in the

Tarai and the *kharif* twelve annas. In the Bhabar both crops gave an yield of fourteen annas in the rupee.

The number of deaths again exceeded the number of births, but apart from malaria which was prevalent all the year, there was no epidemic disease. Two villages were moved to more healthy sites and arrangements were made to remove three more. Three schemes of protective walling calculated to stabilize cultivation and to improve public health were completed and four other schemes have been arranged.

Cattle suffered badly from rinderpest and foot and mouth disease which caused some 15,000 deaths. The treatment of infected cattle was hampered by a shortage in the supply of serum. The Deputy Director of Agriculture in charge of Cattle-breeding was asked to visit and report on the estate cattle farm with a view to its improvement.

Receipts from all sources rose by Rs. 76,897 to Rs. 9 79 lakhs mainly owing to an increase in forest income of Rs. 73,650. Expenditure rose from Rs 5.39 lakhs to Rs. 5.63 lakhs—an increase of Rs. 23,292. This was due to an increase of Rs. 38,355 in the engineering budget owing to the cost of the re-establishment of communications and canal works which had been damaged by the floods of 1924. Excluding the land revenue (Rs. 67,022) the estate gave a return to Government of Rs. 4,16,209.

There were three schools and 224 scholars more in the estate schools than in the previous year, making a total of 94 schools and 4,248 scholars. Progress was made in the education of the backward Buxa and Tharu classes. The co-operative bank did not make its usual profit for want of a demand for loans due to the good crops of the past three years.

24. Both the *rabi* and *kharif* crops were up to the normal and trade in Kotdwara improved. What would have been a failure of crops owing to the early cessation of the monsoon was averted by the canal system of the estate. All demands were realized in full without recourse to the courts. Public health was good and, although 636 cattle died of rinderpest, the loss in cattle was less than in the previous year. There is need for more veterinary and medical assistance as well as for

Garhwal-
Bhabar
estate

agricultural education in the estate. The five schools maintained by the estate showed an improvement. The total receipts from all sources rose from Rs. 38,765 to Rs. 41,176, while the total expenditure fell from Rs. 40,726 to Rs. 40,613 of which Rs. 19,681 represents special grants for the repair of damage done by the floods of 1924.

Other
estates.

25. The total area of the Kumaun soldiers' settlement estates is 12,558 acres of which 10,863 are forests and grazing land and 1,571 acres are held by soldiers. The total population is 2,528 persons. Of the 213 *jagirdars* 75 are still in service. The income accruing to Government rose from Rs. 850 to Rs. 1,147, while the expenditure decreased from Rs. 11,573 to Rs. 5,259. Health both of men and cattle was good and both the *rabi* and *kharif* crops were satisfactory.

The income from the Mirzapur Stone Mahal estate was Rs. 1.32 lakhs, the highest realized for several years. The expenditure rose from Rs. 62,542 to Rs. 74,126 and the surplus was thus Rs. 58,182 compared with Rs. 54,939 in the previous year.

Estates
managed
by the
Board of
Revenue.

26. At the beginning of the year there were 422 properties with a total area of 526,482 acres under the control of the Board of Revenue. Of these 21 were sold, nineteen restored and six transferred to forests with the result that the year closed with 382 estates. Of the demand of Rs. 5.09 lakhs, 85.7 per cent. was collected. The low figure of collection is chiefly due to the change in the system of accounting from the revenue year to the financial year. The total income was Rs. 4.36 lakhs and the total expenditure Rs. 1.97 lakhs. The Allahabad government and confiscated estates yielded Rs. 1.79 lakhs at a cost of Rs. 88,000, management charges being 11.5 per cent. of the gross income. The stud farm at Ghazipur which has a seed dépôt of its own was managed at a cost which was 8.3 per cent. of the gross income of Rs. 29,000. The total receipts from the Dudhi estate were Rs. 57,000 of which Rs. 42,000 were spent on management and improvements. The condition of the tenantry in these three important estates was satisfactory.

10. Wards' estates.

*(See the report of the Court of Wards for the year ending
September 30, 1925.)*

27. With the assumption of seventeen estates during the year the number of estates under the Court of Wards rose from 161 to 167 while the rent-roll increased by Rs. 5.09 lakhs. Eleven estates with a rent-roll of Rs. 3.33 lakhs were released. Of the four estates with a rent-roll of over one lakh of rupees which were assumed the Basaidih Tikra estate in Sitapur and the Dalippur estate in Partabgarh were taken over owing to the indebtedness of their proprietors. The Raja of Kashipur transferred his estate which is heavily in debt to his eldest son who is a minor. The Kanth estate in Moradabad was assumed under section 10 of the Court of Wards Act on the application of the proprietors. In the estates released debts totalling Rs. 6.39 lakhs had been liquidated. The largest estate was the Bijua estate in Kheri with a rent-roll of Rs. 92,500.

Estates
under
manage-
ment.

28. The total rental demand rose from Rs. 1.44 lakhs to Rs. 1.52 lakhs owing partly to the assumption of charge of new estates and partly to the resettlement of the villages in the Balrampur estate. Remissions amounted to Rs. 1.12 lakhs and Rs. 1.07 lakhs were secured by decrees. Of the net recoverable demand of Rs. 1.48 lakhs Rs. 1.42 lakhs were collected—a percentage of 95.7 per cent. against 94.8 in the previous year. There was a general improvement in collection except in Budaun, Moradabad, Azamgarh and Gorakhpur and only in Azamgarh were collections bad.

Collections.

29. The cost of management rose from Rs. 17.1 lakhs to Rs. 17.43 lakhs chiefly owing to the assumption of new estates. The percentage of the cost of management to the income was 10.8 compared with 11.4 in the previous year. There were 23 special schemes of management.

Cost of
manage-
ment.

30. The ascertained debts rose from Rs. 116.89 lakhs at the beginning of the year to Rs. 126.11 lakhs at its close. Loans amounting to Rs. 17.74 lakhs were raised during the year out of which Rs. 15.80 lakhs were used for the payment of debts carrying

Payment of
debts.

higher rates of interest and Rs. 1.45 lakhs for marriage ceremonies. The total amount of debts paid during the year was Rs. 34.10 lakhs of which Rs. 15.54 lakhs were paid from surplus profits.

Wards

31. There were 98 wards, including nine girls, between the ages of ten and 21. Of these 55 were in different schools and colleges, thirteen were reading with private tutors and eight were learning estate management. Thirteen wards were at the Colvin Taluqdars' school, Lucknow, two wards at the Mayo college, Ajmer, and one ward at the Agricultural college, Cawnpore. Except in a few cases the reports on the education of all the wards were satisfactory. The reports on the eight minor and ten major wards who are being trained in estate management were not encouraging. The total charges for the maintenance and education of wards fell by nearly one lakh of rupees to Rs. 44.18 lakhs of which Rs. 2.06 lakhs were spent on education.

Improvements

32. The total expenditure on improvements fell from Rs. 14.09 lakhs to Rs. 13.94 lakhs. Two agricultural farms were closed during the year and nine remained all of which except one worked at a loss. Most of the 29 seed dépôts showed a profit. One hundred and twenty wells were constructed by tenants with the help of the Court of Wards and 122 independent of any help. Stud bulls and buffalo bulls were maintained in nine estates and two cattle fairs were held in the Court of Wards estates in Benares and Sitapur.

The
tenantry :
(a) Edu-
cation.

33. Apart from Rs. 17,152 spent on the repairs and construction of school buildings Rs. 1.27 lakhs were spent on education. Of this sum Rs. 72,658 represents subscriptions to the Canning college and other educational institutions and Rs. 27,650 the cost of 47 schools which were entirely maintained by the estates. A girls' school was opened during the year by the Payagpur estate in Bahraich. The travelling libraries opened in the Nanpara estate in Bahraich were very successful.

(b) Medical
aid and
sanitation.

34. Nineteen dispensaries were entirely maintained by fourteen estates at a cost of Rs. 53,598, while Rs. 39,765 were subscribed to district board dispensaries and Dufferin Fund

hospitals. The total expenditure on medical aid rose from Rs. 1.09 lakhs to Rs. 1.33 lakhs. The expenditure on sanitation fell from Rs. 26,422 to Rs. 20,932.

35. Forty-five new societies were organized during the year, which ended with 550 societies. The working capital increased from Rs. 3.81 lakhs to Rs. 4.72 lakhs but many societies are not working satisfactorily.

Agri-
cultural
banks.

36. There were 27 suits of the value of more than Rs. 10,000 in which the Court of Wards was concerned. In thirteen suits the Court of Wards was the plaintiff and in fourteen the defendant. Eleven suits were decided completely and one partly in favour of the Court of Wards. Three suits were compromised and twelve remained pending at the close of the year.

Litigation.

The policy of reducing rent litigation to a minimum has been consistently followed during the year.

11. Revenue and rent paying classes.

(See government resolution on Revenue Administration and the report of the Board of Revenue for the year ending September 30, 1925.)

37. The increase in the number of mutations from 247,490 to 256,521 was chiefly in cases of succession. The number of mortgages and of redemptions decreased. There were 6,930 new cases for execution of civil court decrees by sale of ancestral land and only in 225 cases was sale wholly or partially averted.

Revenue
paying
classes :
Mutations
in the
revenue
papers.

38. There were 3,033 new applications for partition compared with 3,234 in the previous year. The total number for disposal fell from 8,249 to 7,391 of which 3,374 were disposed of with a reduction in the pending file from 4,358 to 4,017. In three districts special partition officers disposed of 661 cases. Local inspections were made in only 287 cases against 337 in the year before. The system by which parties are required to fix their own relative valuation of the different classes of land has been tried with varying success in several districts. The intricacy of partition work has led to the issue of orders by Government that the decision of partition suits

Partitions.

must be entrusted only to officers of experience and capacity; an attempt is also being made to improve the class of official employed as partition inspector.

Rent pay-
ing classes.
Tenancy
litigation,
Agra.

39. The total number of institutions of new suits and applications fell from 619,653 to 463,999. There was a decrease of 155,896 in the number of ejectment suits owing to the fact that suits for ejectment brought on account of the impending new legislation were postponed by the orders of the Board of Revenue in the previous year.

Enhance-
ment of
rent.

40. The number of suits for enhancement fell from 56,035 to 43,229. The largest institution was again in Farrukhabad, and though special officers were appointed to that district there were still 8,088 cases pending at the close of the year. The steady rise in the number of these suits in the past 30 years is due to the rise in prices with a consequent rise in the value of land and its produce.

Ejectment
suits.

41. The executive order staying all suits for ejectment in mahals where the number of suits or the area of land involved made it clear that the suits for ejectment were due to the prospects of new legislation had the effect of reducing the number of suits in the year 1924-25 from 272,119 to 116,223. Here again the rise in prices and the increased demand for land has led to an all round increase in the number of suits filed in the past 30 years.

Suits for
arrears of
rent and
ejectment
for decreed
arrears.

42. There was an increase of 36 in the number of suits for arrears of rent which was 212,144. The average for the past four years is 205,955 while at the time of the passing of the Agra Tenancy Act of 1901 it was 105,000. This steady increase is attributed to the rise of prices and the multiplication of the number of landlords.

Relinquish-
ments.

43. The number of relinquishments rose to 16,738—the highest figure since 1901. The greatest proportionate increase is in the Jhansi division where tenants have abandoned their land on account of recurring droughts.

Protected
area.

44. As a result of record and settlement operations in the Agra and Muttra districts the area held in occupancy right increased by 70,798 acres. The protected area comprising land held by occupancy tenants, land held by non-occupancy tenants

for twelve years or more and land held under leases of seven years or longer rose from 63·5 per cent. of the total tenancy area in 1901 to 74·3 per cent. in the year under review. In the previous year it was 73·7 per cent.

45. Institutions in Oudh continued to fall and the pending file at the close of the year was 2,231. The total number of cases for disposal during the year was 66,913 against 67,388 in the previous year. The Board of Revenue consider that it is too early to assume that litigation in Oudh under the recent Rent Act has reached its normal level. There was again a large increase in the number of relinquishments which rose from 5,387 to 9,898. This is attributed to the effects of floods and the fall in the price of agricultural produce. Ejectment suits fell from 15,596 to 13,213 while arrears of rent suits rose from 22,168 to 22,368. Roster rates of rent have been fixed in five districts but there is nothing to show how far zamindars have made use of them. There was a further fall of eighteen in the number of applications under section 30A of the Oudh Rent Act.

Rent litigation in Oudh.

46. Criticism continued to be levied against the provisions of the Act dealing with the acquisition of land by landlords, the disqualification of tenants possessing proprietary or under-proprietary rights in the village from acquiring statutory rights, and the liability of a tenant to ejectment from his whole holding for illegally sub-letting part of it. There is nothing in the figures to show that these provisions have been misused but the chief danger is the lever that they give for the extortion of *nazrana*.

The working of the Oudh Rent Act.

47. There were 2,553 applications by lambardars for the summary recovery of land revenue making the total number for disposal 3,162. The sum involved was Rs. 1·43 lakhs of which Rs. 1·02 lakhs were recovered. Over 6,700 acres of land were acquired on payment of compensation amounting to Rs. 7·36 lakhs.

Revenue court work.

48. The total number of appeals for disposal by collectors fell from 9,558 to 9,544 of which 8,322 were decided with a consequent reduction in the pending file from 1,814 to 1,222. Institutions before commissioners numbered 2,649 and the number for disposal was 3,747. Of these 2,866 were disposed

Revenue appeals.

of and the pending file was thus reduced from 1,098 to 881. There was a fall of 66 in the number of institutions before the Board of Revenue and the total number for disposal was 649. The pending file was reduced from 100 to 74.

**Rent court
work.**

49. The number of suits instituted in Agra was 463,999 and the number for disposal 794,925 compared with 785,110 in the previous year. Disposals rose from 453,198 to 551,656 and the pending balance was reduced from 331,912 to 243,269. In Oudh the number of suits and applications for disposal again fell and was 66,913 against 67,388 in the previous year. Of these 64,682 were disposed of and the pending file was reduced from 2,884 to 2,231.

**Execution
of decrees.**

50. The total number of applications for execution before the courts rose from 200,444 to 213,010 of which 192,980 were disposed of. The pending balance rose from 18,031 to 20,030. The amount recoverable on the applications disposed of was Rs. 83.22 lakhs of which Rs. 38.54 lakhs were recovered giving a percentage of 46.3 compared with 47.4 in the previous year.

**Rent
appeals.**

51. The number of appeals before collectors in Agra rose from 5,715 to 5,873 of which 5,135 were disposed of leaving a balance of 738 compared with 818 in the previous year. In Oudh there were 969 appeals before deputy commissioners of which 84 remained pending at the close of the year compared with 100 in the previous year. There were 91 appeals under the Kumaun Tenancy Rules of which 25 remained pending at the close of the year. The number of appeals for disposal by commissioners fell by nearly 4,000 to 14,728. Of these 10,044 were decided. New institutions before the Board of Revenue rose from 2,573 to 3,090 and the total number of cases for disposal from 3,031 to 3,869. The disposal of 3,201 of these reduced the pending file from 779 to 668. There were 3,870 appeals before district judges of which 1,218 were pending at the close of the year.

The percentage of appeals to the number of appealable cases decided by the subordinate courts was 9.8.

**Honorary
assistant
collectors.**

52. Honorary assistant collectors continued to do useful work, those in Gorakhpur alone disposing of 14,310 cases. The number of honorary assistant collectors at the close of the year was 163 of whom ten were appointed during the year.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

12. Course of legislation.

53. The following Acts were passed by the Legislative Council between January 1, 1925, and December 31, 1926:—

- (1) The United Provinces Public Gambling (Amendment) Act (I of 1925).
- (2) The United Provinces Opium Smoking Act (II of 1925).
- (3) The United Provinces Legislative Council Salary of President Act (III of 1925).
- (4) The Oudh Courts Act (IV of 1925).
- (5) The Agra Civil Courts (Amendment) Act (V of 1925).
- (6) The United Provinces District Boards Primary Education Act (I of 1926).
- (7) The United Provinces Municipalities (Amendment) Act (II of 1926).
- (8) The Agra Tenancy Act (III of 1926).
- (9) The United Provinces Municipalities (Amendment) Act (IV of 1926).
- (10) The Oudh Rent (Amendment) Act (V of 1926).
- (11) The United Provinces Land Revenue (*Sir* Amendment) Act (VI of 1926).
- (12) The United Provinces District Boards (Amendment) Act (VII of 1926).
- (13) The Agra University Act (VIII of 1926).
- (14) The United Provinces Legislative Council Salary of President (Amendment) Act (IX of 1926).

The work of the Legislative Council during 1925 was described in the general summary of the report for 1924-25. Its work during 1926 is described in this year's general summary.

13 Police.

(See the report on the administration of the Police Department for the year ending December 31, 1925.)

(See also tables 37 to 43 of the Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue, 1926.)

General.

54. Communal tension continued but except at Aligarh, where the police had to resort to firing, there were no disturbances on the scale of 1924. Each important religious festival, however, imposed a severe strain upon magistrates and police alike. The year was comparatively free from labour troubles, but while political agitation of the kind which demands the continuous attention of the police was almost non-existent, the revolutionary movement found open expression in this province for the first time in the Kakori train dacoity.

Crime
statistics

55. Including cases reported to magistrates the total number of true cognizable offences fell from 126,935 to 125,867. The decrease was chiefly in burglary, theft and grievous hurt. Cattle theft and cheating increased. Excluding nuisances and offences under special and local laws the volume of crime was the lowest of the last eleven years. Non-cognizable offences decreased by 788 to 145,585. The number of non-cognizable cases reported has not been affected to any marked extent by the operation of the Village Panchayat Act.

Investiga-
tions.

56. There was no change in the total number of investigations. No investigation was made in 17.32 per cent of the 134,679 cases with which the staff dealt. The percentage of convictions in investigated cases rose to 26.1. An experiment in more specialized methods of investigation is being started at Lucknow.

Murder.

57. There has been a steady fall in cases of murder since 1922, the figure for 1925 being 735. In 86 cases the murderers committed suicide and 51 were cases of dacoity with murder. In all, 510 persons were convicted of murder during the year but only 148 suffered the death penalty. Five chaukidars were killed in the performance of their duties.

58. Riots increased from 1,496 to 1,514, which is the highest figure but one on record. While there were no political or industrial riots, communal riots were reported from thirteen districts. Apart from communal tension, the factors to which this increase is attributed are the general lawlessness of the last decade, the rules for optional investigation and the growing tendency of courts to allow compromise. In the Benares district although in one riot a constable and a chaukidar were attacked no investigation was made and rioting has come to be regarded almost as a minor offence.

59. The number of true cases of grievous hurt reported fell from 2,942 to 2,711. Shahjahanpur, Meerut, Bareilly, Budaun and Gonda were again the districts most affected.

Grievous
hurt.

60. Excluding cases of dacoity with murder, which fell from 78 to 51, there were 742 reports of dacoity as against 966 in the previous year. This is little more than half of the number in 1922 when the special dacoity police was established. The districts most affected were Agra, Unao, Bahraich, Cawnpore, Sitapur and Meerut. In 296 cases firearms were used. Two hundred and eighty-two cases were brought to court, and 217 ended in conviction.

Dacoity.

The Special Dacoity Police, formed at a time when the volume of organized dacoity seriously menaced the peace of the province, have gradually become a body of specialists whose help is now requisitioned in almost every serious outbreak of dacoity. The value of their work can be gauged from the figures of dacoity for the past five years. The operations of the force disclosed the fact that gangs operating far apart have connexion with each other and that local gangs seldom act without calling in expert dacoits from outside. The Special Dacoity Police arrested in 1925 no less than 528 persons belonging to thirteen defined gangs who were known to have been concerned in at least 375 dacoities. The number of persons convicted was 231 and there were at the close of the year 291 persons under trial. Property valued at Rs. 26,580, in addition to 26 guns and six revolvers, were recovered by this force during the year. The force is now engaged in the difficult task of dealing with the Chambal Kanjars. Mr. Young is still in charge.

It must be remembered, however, that while the work of the special force has largely contributed to the success which has been achieved in dealing with dacoity, the regular police deserve no less credit for the results. During the year under review the special force confined its operations mostly to the west of the province, while the regular police were of course constantly grappling with the problem in the rest of the province with most successful results.

**Robbery
and thefts**

61. Cases of robbery, burglary and theft decreased from 783, 43,022 and 22,078 to 711, 42,174 and 21,785, respectively. Robbery was again common in Gorakhpur, Meerut and Aligarh and as usual the majority of cases occurred on roads and tracks at nightfall. In Jhansi there was a series of armed robberies. While there was a slight fall in the number of reports of burglary the percentage of convictions to reports rose from six to nine. There is little doubt that many burglaries are not reported owing to the reduction in the number of village chaukidars. The Gayer system was introduced in all districts and the Inspector-General of Police is hopeful of good results. Thefts of 27 firearms, including eleven revolvers, were reported and fourteen of these weapons, including eight revolvers, were recovered. Cases of cattle theft increased from 3,237 to 3,792 but many thefts are not reported and many cases reported as strays are in reality thefts. A special force has been appointed to combat this form of crime on the Punjab border.

**Other
crimes**

62. There were 25 cases of counterfeiting. Arrests were made of counterfeiters from different parts of India and the Criminal Investigation Department brought to light the existence of a very clever series of forged Rs. 100 notes. There was a considerable rise in cases of kidnapping. This offence chiefly takes the form of traffic in women to the Punjab by marriage agents. The law dealing with harbouring was as usual almost a dead letter.

**Surveil-
lance.**

63. The number of history sheets increased from 37,258 to 42,226—an average of 36 to each police station. The rules for surveillance have been simplified but for their effective operation an increase in the number of chaukidars is imperative.

64. One thousand and eighty-nine absconders were arrested during the year, while the number on the list rose from 3,111 to 3,135.

65. The total registered population rose from 35,300 to 36,551. Reductions in the police and chaukidari force have resulted in less efficient supervision. This has led to a decrease in the number of convictions under the Criminal Tribes Act accompanied by an increase in convictions under the Indian Penal Code. Nearly one-third of the total registered number are Pasis among whom, especially in Allahabad, there are signs of improvement. Of the seven settlements and two schools all but the Kalianpur settlement were in the charge of the Salvation Army. A scheme for a Bhandu colony in the Andamans was inaugurated by the despatch of 175 Bhandu settlers.

Criminal
tribes.

*Despite difficulties at the outset the scheme promises to be a success, especially so since the Salvation Army have agreed to take on the management of the colony. The Chambal Kanjars, the Aherias of Aligarh and Budaun, the Badaks of Shahjahanpur, the Barwars of Gonda, and the Bauriahs of Muzaffarnagar are notorious for their criminality, but until there is greater accommodation in settlements there is little possibility of reforming them.

66. The number of true reports fell from 5,967 to 5,082. The decrease was chiefly in thefts from running goods trains and is due to the establishment of the Watch and Ward Department. In two cases trains were held up. The Kakori train dacoity was investigated by the Criminal Investigation Department, while in the Tundla hold-up the railway and district police together arrested the gang responsible within a few days of the occurrence. There were twelve accidents to trains, resulting in three deaths. Cases of attempted derailment fell from 21 to seven, the most important being the derailment of the mail train in the Moradabad district in September. The railway police service is unpopular and a scheme of reorganization has been approved and will come into operation as soon as funds permit.

Railway
police.

67. The most important case dealt with during the year was the Kakori train dacoity and the connected conspiracy case. In spite of the heavy work involved in the prosecution of this

Criminal
Investiga-
tion Depart-
ment.

case the department investigated twelve more cases than in 1924. A mysterious murder of two young men in the Aligarh district was skilfully solved. Conviction was obtained in 85 per cent. of the cases put into court by the department. A special course of lectures for the district intelligence staff was held at the Police Training school.

Chaukidars. 68. The sweeping reductions made in the force have had a bad effect upon the work of surveillance. Proposals for a substantial increase have been made.

Strength and cost of police. 69. One police station was abolished and the total strength of the force was diminished by one sub-inspector, five head constables and 30 constables. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 135 lakhs to Rs. 136 lakhs, owing to the transfer to the police budget of Rs. 1.05 for repairs which formerly appeared in the budget of the Public Works Department. The strength of the armed police has been reduced by 490 men in the last four years, and a proposal for a substantial but very necessary increase has been approved by the Government and awaits funds.

Discipline. 70. Discipline was good and the punishment roll was lighter than in 1924. The Criminal Investigation Department and the Special Dacoity Police had a clean record.

Thirteen officers and 267 men were dismissed. There were 25 charges of ill-treatment or extortion, fifteen of which were dealt with by the courts. In seven cases conviction followed and in one the accused was acquitted. Resignations were rather more numerous but desertions decreased.

Buildings. 71. Out of a budget provision of Rs. 18.89 lakhs Rs. 14.83 lakhs were spent. Eight major and five minor works were completed or nearly completed during the year at an expenditure of Rs. 11.61 lakhs. A loan of a crore of rupees for building projects has been sanctioned. Many buildings are in imminent danger of collapse and many have completely disappeared as the result of five years of financial stringency.

Miscellaneous. 72. There is keen competition for nomination to the Police Training school at Moradabad. It is too early yet to judge the results of the extension of the course to eighteen months.

A scheme was introduced for the training of mounted police recruits and remounts at the school. A marked change in the attitude of the Legislative Council towards the department was noticeable when at the presentation of the budget in March all demands were voted.

14. Criminal justice.

(See the reports of the High Court at Allahabad and of the Chief Court of Oudh for the year ending December 31, 1925.)

(See also tables 33 to 36 of the Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue, 1926.)

AGRA PROVINCE.

73. The number of sessions divisions remained nineteen. Besides the permanent additional sessions judges, temporary additional judges and sessions and subordinate judges worked for varying periods in ten districts for a total of 44 months.

Judicial
staff.

74. The total number of offences reported under the Indian Penal Code, including those pending from 1924, again rose from 108,461 to 111,249. The number of cases reported as true cases rose from 77,031 to 77,935. The number of cases brought to trial was 69,939 as compared with 67,971 in the previous year, while the number of persons under trial rose from 175,246 to 178,911. This increase was, however, chiefly confined to petty offences and there was a marked decline in the numbers of robbery and dacoity. The large increase in petty offences is to some extent due to the greater facilities for prosecution in the courts of honorary magistrates. The complainant is saved the trouble and expense of going to stipendiary magistrates at head-quarters. On the other hand there is no doubt that honorary magistrates entertain petty complaints of a frivolous and often quasi-civil nature which the complainant would not bring to a regular court. There was an increase of 5,385 in the number of persons under trial in the courts of honorary magistrates sitting singly, while the total increase in the number of persons under trial in all courts was only 2,136.

Number of
trials.

The more settled political conditions gave rise to a further decrease in the number of offences against the State which fell from eighteen to fifteen and also in the number of offences of contempt of the lawful authority of public servants which fell from 2,784 to 2,581. Communal tension continued, but did not give rise to riots of the same magnitude as in the previous year.

Offences under special and local laws including the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code fell by over three thousand to 86,705. The decrease was chiefly under the Municipalities Act and the District Police Act. Under the former it was 2,738; under the latter 1,359.

Scarcity of fodder due to the floods of 1924 accounts for a rise of 845 in the number of reports under the Cattle Trespass Act. There was a remarkable rise of over 1,400 in the number of convictions of offences under the Hackney and Stage Carriages Acts, indicating an increased regard for traffic control. There was an increase of convictions under the Railway Act of 479 of which 300 were at Allahabad alone where a special magistrate held his court at the railway station. Many offenders under the Railway Act escape with impunity owing to the fact that a short term of simple imprisonment in default of payment of fine is the heaviest penalty provided by the Railway Act for travelling without a ticket, and magistrates are unwilling to fill the jails with mendicants serving short terms of simple imprisonment.

Duration
and
results of
trials.

75. The average duration of trials in all courts remained ten days. There was a slight decrease in cases pending over six weeks which were 2,187 compared with 2,230 in 1924. The tendency of the amendments to sections 256 and 525 of the Criminal Procedure Code to prolong cases which was noticed in the administration report of last year was again evident. The number of witnesses examined rose from 263,136 to 266,374. The number of witnesses summoned but not examined was 47,522, while in 1924 it was 46,256. This is largely due to the fact that magistrates accept long lists of witnesses as a matter of routine.

The amendment to section 256 of the Criminal Procedure Code was again responsible for an increase in the number of witnesses detained for more than two days which was 15,432 compared with 14,919.

The fact that the number of persons under trial in magistrates' courts was over 40,000 more than the number of witnesses examined testifies to the amount of false and frivolous litigation. Yet the total number of cases in which compensation was awarded to the accused under section 250 of the Criminal Procedure Code fell from 474 to 422, while 164,282 persons were acquitted or discharged.

76 Of 219 persons condemned to death by sessions judges, the sentences of 110 were confirmed by the High Court. Forty persons were released and 33 had their sentences modified. The number of persons sentenced to transportation rose from 341 to 459. Persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment numbered 15,122 compared with 15,412 in 1924 and those sentenced to periods of seven years and more 280 compared with 282.

Punish-
ments.

The percentage of sentences in which solitary confinement was added to rigorous imprisonment was ten. In the two previous years it was eleven.

Although the number of whippings rose from 890 to 974, this figure is still below that of 1923; and there has been a steady decline in the number of such sentences since 1919.

Short-term sentences of fifteen days and under show a further decrease of 51.

The number of persons released on probation under section 562 of the Criminal Procedure Code rose from 1,791 to 1,961.

77. The number of appeals was 21,495, two more than in 1924. Appeals.

The percentage of totally unsuccessful appeals remained 67.

78. The number of persons tried by jury rose from 99 to 386. It is too early yet to form an opinion as to the success or failure of the system at Cawnpore and Bareilly to which it was extended in January, 1925, but at Benares it is reported that

Jury
system.

there is no reason to modify the unfavourable opinion expressed last year.

ODDH.

General

79. On November 2, 1925, the Judicial Commissioner's Court was replaced by the Chief Court of Oudh. This has resulted in a change in the procedure for hearing appeals against sentences of transportation which are now heard by a bench of two judges.

Judicial
staff.

80. The regular staff remained the same as in the previous year except that with the establishment of the Chief Court, the court of one additional district and sessions judge was abolished. The regular staff was supplemented by three temporary sessions courts which were established to dispose of the Imperial Bank embezzlement case, the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway fraud cases and the congestion of criminal work in Kheri district.

Number of
trials.

81 The number of offences reported rose from 56,271 to 59,970, of which 45,709 were true cases. The total number of cases before all courts was 46,849 compared with 43,367 of the previous year and the total number of persons brought to trial 99,551 compared with 95,997. A decrease from 1,880 to 1,655 in the number of persons committed to sessions indicates that the increase was not in the more serious forms of crime.

The high figure of 478 of offences affecting life reported last year rose still further to 723 of which 208 were from Lucknow. At this place only sixteen out of 432 persons brought before the magistrates were convicted and 60 committed to the sessions court. The leniency of courts in dealing with offences affecting life which was noted last year is possibly responsible for the large increase in this form of crime. This year in spite of this increase the number of capital sentences decreased from 86 to 83.

While there was an increase in the number of reports of the offences of hurt, theft, cheating, mischief, and criminal intimidation the number of robberies and dacoities decreased from 416 to 359. There was also a fall in the number of offences against the State and of contempt of the lawful authority of public servants.

Offences under special and local laws increased from 21,100 to 23,449. The increase was chiefly under the Municipalities Act and the Vaccination Act. But of the 227 cases from Lucknow under the Vaccination Act not one was convicted, and this fact throws doubt upon the good faith of the reporting agencies. There were 65 more offences under the Excise Act than in 1924.

82. The number of cases and the number of persons brought to trial increased by eight per cent. and four per cent. respectively. Of 99,122 persons brought to trial, the cases of 96,262 were disposed of by magistrates.

Duration of trials.

The duration of trial in the magistrates' courts fell from twelve to eleven days, while in the sessions courts it rose from 58 to 64 days.

Convictions were obtained in 33 per cent. of cases in the magistrates' courts—an increase of two per cent. over the previous year.

Of 96,744 witnesses who were summoned seventeen per cent. were not examined, and eleven per cent. were detained more than two days. This is no doubt partly due to the amendment to section 256, Criminal Procedure Code, but it is also due to a lack of care on the part of magistrates.

In spite of the fact that of 99,122 persons brought to trial, 63,989 were acquitted or discharged, compensation was awarded to the accused under section 250, Criminal Procedure Code, in only 139 cases.

Honorary magistrates again disposed of nearly two-thirds of the total number of cases in this province.

83. Death sentences were passed on 83 persons compared with 86 in 1924, and in 48 per cent. of the cases coming before it, the Chief Court confirmed the sentences. The numbers of persons sentenced to transportation for life and to imprisonment exceeding seven years were 99 and 98 respectively, compared with 118 and 137 in the previous year.

Punishment

While there was an increase in the number of sentences of imprisonment not exceeding two years there was a decrease in the number of short-term sentences of fifteen days or less. The number of whippings rose from 119 to 232, whilst that of persons

dealt with under section 562 of the Criminal Procedure Code fell from 789 to 653.

Appeals.

84. The number of appeals before magistrates rose from 842 to 881 and those before sessions judges from 1,673 to 2,074. The percentage of wholly successful appeals was 36 and 17 respectively. The number of appeals before the Chief Court fell from 844 to 770.

15. Prisons

(See the report on the condition and management of jails, for the year ending December 31, 1925.)

(See also tables 44 to 54 of the Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue, 1926.)

Jail
population.

85. The decline in the number of convicts admitted to prison which has been marked in the past few years was checked in 1925 when 27,833 convicted prisoners were admitted as compared with 26,867 in 1924. Even so, the total is, with the exception of 1924, the lowest for the last decade. The decrease in the number of female convicts, however, continued and only 533 were admitted as compared with 548 in 1924 and 717 in 1923. The daily average population increased from 23,903 to 24,825 due partly to the fact that convicts sentenced to transportation are now detained in jails.

The percentages both of illiterate convicts and of habitual offenders remained practically the same as last year—3·6 and 25·95 against 3·7 and 26·00 respectively.

In spite of an increase in the jail population the percentage of prisoners sentenced to rigorous imprisonment combined with solitary confinement fell from 7·3 to 6·3, while there was an increase in the number of prisoners sentenced to simple imprisonment which was 2,931 as compared with 2,595 in 1924.

The number of civil prisoners admitted during the year was 1,660 compared with 1,428 in 1924.

Conduct
and
discipline.

86. The operation of the remission rules and the abolition of irksome restraints continued to have a good effect on jail discipline and only five convicts failed by reason of bad conduct

to gain remission. The total number of remissions was 12,571 against 13,293 of the year before.

The increase in the jail population accounts for a small rise in the number of jail offences which was 22,879 against 22,450 in 1924.

Offences of assault, mutiny and escape numbered 63 against 77 in the previous year. Forty-seven offences were dealt with by criminal courts and 22,832 by superintendents.

Twenty prisoners only, of whom seventeen were habitual offenders, were flogged,—a percentage of 0·08 of the total number of persons punished. The retention of this form of punishment, however, is considered very necessary as a deterrent to serious breaches of discipline.

There were eighteen escapes during the year, but of these only six were escapes from a jail and all of them on one occasion. Of the eighteen escaped convicts twelve have been recaptured.

87. The death-rate for the year was 10·9 per thousand representing 311 deaths of which 182 were due to pneumonia and tuberculosis. Improved diet is responsible for the fact that there were only 23 deaths from dysentery and diarrhoea as compared with 36 in 1924. There has been a steady decline in the incidence of dysentery and diarrhoea in the past five years. Health.

Forty-seven new leper prisoners were admitted into the leper ward in the Rae Bareilly jail where a marked improvement in the condition of these prisoners testifies to the benefit of the special treatment given there.

88. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 23·44 lakhs to Rs. 26·68 lakhs and the cost per head from Rs. 86 to Rs. 94. The rise in dietary charges accounts for Rs. 2·97 lakhs out of this increase. Expenditure.

89. Of the total jail population 43·55 per cent. were employed on remunerative industries and cash profits of Rs. 2·34 lakhs compared with Rs. 1·94 lakhs in 1924 were made. The total value of sales to the public rose from Rs. 2·79 lakhs to Rs. 2·86 lakhs, and to government departments from Rs. 1·32 lakhs to Rs. 3·11 lakhs. Employment.

Juvenile
prisoners.

90. There were 303 admissions of offenders under twenty-one years of age into the Bareilly juvenile jail, of which the daily average population rose from 192 to 228. The Star Class system advocated by the Indian Jails Committee has been modified by inducing the selected juveniles to set a good example to the others instead of segregating them.

Reforms.

91. There has been an increase in the pay of the jail staff which was long overdue. The Jail Manual is being revised. In some jails libraries exist for the use of prisoners and Government have provided Rs. 3,000 for the purchase of books for the use of convicts.

Rupees 3,826 were spent in aid to discharged prisoners, but unofficial interest in the discharged prisoners' aid societies is practically non-existent.

16. Civil justice.

(See the separate reports on Civil justice for Agra, Oudh and Kumaun for the year ending December 31, 1925.)

(See also tables 27 to 32 of the Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue, 1926.)

AGRA PROVINCE.

Adminis-
tration.

92. During the year the territorial jurisdiction of the munsifs in Bulandshahr was redistributed and the court of the additional munsif at Bulandshahr was made a fixed court with defined jurisdiction.

Judicial
staff.

93. The regular staff was supplemented by the employment of temporary additional judges and of temporary subordinate judges for varying periods in six and four districts respectively. In addition, three courts of munsifs acted as additional subordinate judges and movable courts of subordinate judges and munsifs worked in eighteen and nineteen districts respectively.

Owing to lack of funds no building projects were provided for during the year.

Original
suits.

94. The highwater mark of 1924 was surpassed in 1925 when the number of suits rose by over 6,000 to 166,575. This increase is practically accounted for by a rise of 6,214 in the

number of suits filed in the courts of small causes. Except for testamentary suits the rise was common to all classes of suit. The value of suits rose by more than one and a half crores to Rs. 886 lakhs. There was a marked increase of 3,734 in the number of suits of the value of Rs. 500 or less.

The increase in litigation is attributed to the increase in the number of courts, resulting in a more speedy disposal of suits. Disposals rose in almost the same proportion as the number of suits increased and were 172,014 against 166,235 in 1924. There was a small decrease in the duration of both contested and uncontested suits in the courts of subordinate judges and munsifs. This was balanced by an extraordinary rise in the average duration of suits in the courts of district judges, which was 195 days for contested and 350 for uncontested cases compared with 164 and 143 respectively in 1924.

95. The total number of appeals filed in courts subordinate to the High Court fell from 15,303 to 14,932. The pending file was reduced by 642, and the average duration of appeals fell from 172 to 136 days. Appeals.

Appeals in the High Court again rose and numbered 6,673 against 6,118 in the previous year. The pending file rose from 3,738 to 4,777, of which 4,078 were pending for more than three months.

96. The number of applications for execution rose from 157,672 to 168,079. Thus while there was a rise of 7,765 in the number of applications disposed of, the pending file increased by 2,196. The percentage of fructuous applications fell by two points to 45. Execution
of decrees.

97. There were 109 village munsifs' courts against 160 in 1924. Of these 96 were working. The number of institutions fell from 8,546 to 7,767 and the total value of suits decreased from Rs. 1.75 lakhs to Rs. 1.61 lakhs. Honorary
courts.

There were 38 honorary munsifs compared with 36 in 1924. They disposed of 9,984 suits—an increase of 815 over the number of 1924.

98. In accordance with the recommendation of the Civil Justice Committee special attention was paid to dishonest Insolvency.

**PRO-
TECTION.**

applications in insolvency and official receivers were appointed in several districts.

ODDH.**Jurisdic-
tion.**

99. The year saw the inauguration on November 2, 1925, of the Chief Court of Oudh with five judges having original jurisdiction in respect of suits of the value of five lakhs and over in place of the late Judicial Commissioner's Court. With the establishment of this court, the court of one additional district judge was abolished.

**Judicial
staff.**

100. The five subordinate judges and five munsifs who were added to the cadre in 1924 were deputed from time to time to various districts where there was congestion of work.

**Original
suits.**

101. The number of institutions rose from 68,063 to the unprecedented figure of 73,285, giving one suit for every 166 persons of the population. Disposals increased from 70,075 to 73,613. The increase in the number of suits was accompanied by a decrease in their value of 21 per cent.—Rs. 240 lakhs compared with Rs. 303 lakhs. The decrease was chiefly in the courts of subordinate judges and was partly due to the fact that suits to the value of Rs. 64 lakhs were transferred to the original side of the Chief Court and one suit of Rs. 15.76 lakhs was instituted in the Chief Court. In the courts of district and subordinate judges the duration of uncontested suits fell from 406 days to 104 days and from 120 to 109 days respectively. There was a slight decrease in the duration of small cause court suits and of regular suits in the courts of munsifs.

Appeals.

102. The total number of civil appeals in subordinate courts rose from 1,922 to 1,951. The pending file, however, was reduced by 100 to 801. The percentage of successful appeals remained 64.

**Execution
of decrees.**

103. There was a rise in the number of applications for execution from 62,241 to 69,638, making the total number pending for disposal 80,639 of which 68,518 were decided. The percentage of fructuous applications remained the same as in the previous year.

**Honorary
courts.**

104. There were 54 honorary munsifs working during the year who disposed of 8,433 cases. The number of village

courts fell from nineteen to seven. As was reported last year the disappearance of these courts is due to the extension of the Village Panchayat Act to areas in which these courts previously worked.

KUMAUN.

105. In Kumaun the number of suits instituted rose from 7,153 to 8,190. The increase is said to be due to the prosperous year and in Garhwal to the approaching record operations.

Number and
conduct of
suits

The total value of suits again increased from Rs. 13·63 lakhs to Rs. 17 27 lakhs.

Out of 9,546 suits for disposal 8,170 were decided and the average duration of contested suits rose from 109 to 126 days. The average duration of uncontested cases fell slightly from 56·18 to 55·84 days.

106. The number of appeals for disposal fell from 346 to 336. Of 251 appeals before the deputy commissioners, 179 were disposed of by them. The commissioner disposed of 67 out of the 85 appeals in his court. The average duration in appeals rose from 78·23 to 114·76 days.

Appeals.

107. There were 5,286 applications for execution of decrees against 4,506 in 1924. Of these 922 remained pending at the close of the year as compared with 850 in 1924. Wholly infructuous applications numbered 2,453 while in 1,457 cases satisfaction was obtained in full or in part.

Execution
of decrees.

17. Registration.

(See the triennial report on the administration of the Registration Department for the years 1923, 1924 and 1925.)

(See also table no. 57 of the Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue, 1926.)

108. In the light of recommendations of the Economy Committee, the number of sub-registrars' offices was reduced by eight and is now 208.

Administra-
tion.

109. The total number of registered documents rose from 258,699 to 285,600, the increase in the case of registrations affecting immovable property being 24,909 and that affecting

Registra-
tion

movable property 1,766. The increase was practically confined to compulsory registration. There was another rise of 5,174 in the number of leases. Mortgages rose by 10,920, sales and exchanges by 5,122, and gifts by 1,033. The great increase in the number of registrations in the year is undoubtedly due to the rise in prices owing to the losses caused by the floods of 1924.

Financial.

110. The total gross income was Rs. 13·34 lakhs compared with Rs. 12·33 lakhs in the previous year. Expenditure rose from Rs. 4·53 lakhs to Rs. 4·57 lakhs, and the net income was thus Rs. 8·76 lakhs compared with Rs. 7·80 lakhs of 1924.

Funds were allotted for the extension and alteration of sub-registrars' offices and residences in ten localities.

Four more posts of sub-registrars were abolished in accordance with the programme of retrenchment.

General.

111. The number of inspections rose from 450 to 517, of which 183 were made by revenue officers, and 172 by inspectors of registration offices. The pressure of judicial work made it impossible for district registrars to make more than 101 inspections. An extension of the departmental inspectorate is being considered.

There were six prosecutions under the Registration Act during the year.

18. District boards.

(See the review of the working of district boards for the year ending March 31, 1926.)

(See also table 141 of the Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue, 1926.)

General.

112. During the third and last year of the first non-official boards the interest of members continued to flag and the average percentage of attendance at meetings fell to 50·48. The new boards elected in December, 1925 displayed more enthusiasm and for the period December to March the average percentage of attendance rose to 62·60. The number of abortive meetings rose from 106 to 119 for the whole year. Of 646 meetings held by the old boards 97 were abortive and 93 adjourned.

Out-door work does not attract the attention which it should, and the number of inspections made by members apart from the

chairmen was disappointingly small. In some boards sub-committees did useful work but very few reports have much to say in favour of tahsil committees. Members who have attended the full board meeting do not feel inclined to meet again at tahsil especially as they feel that they have little power to give effect to their decisions in committee. Nevertheless, the boards are very jealous of delegating their powers, and unless the committees are content to do more in the way of supervising and inspecting the administration within their area they will continue to have only a nominal effect upon the work of the boards.

113. Excluding opening balances and debt heads the total income was Rs. 190.85 lakhs compared with Rs. 178.68 lakhs in the previous year. This rise of Rs. 12.17 lakhs is practically accounted for by an increase in government grants of over Rs. 10 lakhs and an improvement of Rs. 2 lakhs in the income from cattle pounds. The total amount received from Government was Rs. 85.00 lakhs or 45 per cent. of the total income. Education was allotted grants of Rs. 69.48 lakhs compared with Rs. 63.72 lakhs in 1924-25; medicine and public health Rs. 4.91 lakhs against Rs. 3.49 lakhs; and civil and other works Rs. 10.61 lakhs compared with Rs. 10.77 lakhs. There was a decrease of Rs. 0.85 lakh in the receipts from local rates due to the fact that receipts in the previous year were swollen by the collection of arrears of 1923-24. The income from educational fees and hostel receipts remained unchanged at Rs. 4.04 lakhs. Two districts courageously tried to meet their financial difficulties by imposing a tax on circumstances and property. It is too soon to determine whether the remedy lies in this form of new taxation or in an enhancement of the local rate. The income from fairs and exhibitions increased from Rs. 0.75 lakh to Rs. 1.35 lakhs but contributions from local bodies and private persons fell from Rs. 4.66 lakhs to Rs. 3.96 lakhs. The decrease was most marked under Education (0.45 lakh) and Medicine (0.27 lakh). The incidence of taxation per head of population varies between six pies in Garhwal to eight annas and nine pies in Muttra while the provincial average is two annas and five pies.

**PRO-
TECTION.****Expendi-
ture.**

114. Expenditure rose from Rs. 177.89 lakhs to Rs. 191.42 lakhs. Administration cost Rs. 10.16 lakhs compared with Rs. 8.39 lakhs and pounds Rs. 4.76 lakhs against Rs. 4.17 lakhs. Expenditure on education increased from Rs. 90.64 lakhs to Rs. 95.40 lakhs. Charges under Medicine and Public health fell from Rs. 24.39 lakhs to Rs. 24.19 lakhs of which Rs. 5.74 lakhs were devoted to public health and vaccination. The amount spent on Civil works excluding expenditure on buildings connected with education, medicine, sanitary and veterinary services and pounds was Rs. 48.47 lakhs. Communications received Rs. 33.27 lakhs compared with Rs. 27.45 lakhs in the previous year.

**Financial
position.**

115. The total expenditure exceeded the total income by Rs. 0.57 lakhs. The sale of government securities and withdrawals from savings banks increased the total receipts by Rs. 5.54 lakhs and account for a rise of Rs. 1.90 lakhs in the closing balance which was Rs. 33.17 lakhs. Excluding deposits and balances earmarked for specific objects the balance at the absolute disposal of the 48 boards is Rs. 20.59 lakhs. Seven boards have debtor balances and nine have less than Rs. 20,000 at their disposal. Those boards which balance their budgets do so by starving essential services, and few are willing to recognize the fact that, unless the development of education, sanitation, medical relief and communications is to be restricted, fresh sources of income must be found. The low incidence of taxation indicates that there is room for this.

Education.

116. The number of schools managed by district boards increased by 357 to 14,958, while a rise of 398 in the number of aided schools brought their total to 3,889. There was an increase of 55,527 in the number of scholars attending district board schools and of 13,857 in aided schools, the totals being 877,139 and 122,440. Of a combined total of 999,579 scholars 813,558 were in the lower primary classes and only 134,249 in the upper primary sections. The discrepancy is most marked in aided schools where only one-fortieth of the number of boys reading in the lower primary classes reach the upper classes. The ratio in district board schools is nearly one-fifth.

The benefit of the large increase in the number of boys who acquire little more than a smattering of primary education is doubtful. Many teachers are below the standard, and the education which they impart is of comparatively little value. Free primary education has been tried by a number of boards but with doubtful success. Female education makes slow progress and suffers from a dearth of teachers. Buildings are poor where they exist and in many cases do not exist at all. The experiment of giving teachers instruction at the Agricultural school, Bulandshahr, will be watched with interest.

All boards feel the necessity for giving more education but many express misgivings as to the results of the education they provide. They spent Rs. 95.40 lakhs or nearly one half of their income on education, but the results so far achieved have not come up to expectation. It is hoped that when compulsory education is introduced under the District Boards Primary Education Act scholars will be kept at school until they complete the full school course and will not lapse into illiteracy as many of them do at present.

117. To fill the gap caused by the abolition of travelling dispensaries a number of boards are inducing private practitioners to accept subsidies from Government given on condition that they settle in remote areas where there is no dispensary; and advantage is being taken of Government's offer to bear half of the cost, both recurring and non-recurring, of establishing dispensaries in places where none existed previously. As a result of the inability of boards to meet the cost of the increase in salaries given to officers of the Provincial Medical service a large number of dispensaries have been transferred to district boards to be staffed with their own doctors who usually hold the Agra qualification. In some quarters the opinion is expressed that this has resulted in deterioration and in one district M. B., B. S. officers of Lucknow have superseded L. M. P's of Agra.

Medical and
Public
health
services.

Medical aid for women makes slow progress partly owing to lack of funds and partly owing to a shortage of competent lady doctors.

While in many districts there has actually been a decline in the number of patients treated by doctors of the Western school there has been a large increase in the number of those who have received comfort from practitioners of the Ayurvedic and Unani systems, although the sum spent on indigenous medicine was less than one lakh. The chief drawback in these systems is that there are no recognized qualifications and no effective supervision can be exercised. This difficulty will, it is hoped, be met by the newly created Board of Indian Medicine. On the whole then there has been a tendency for Western medical aid to decline owing to the fact that the increased cost of practitioners of this school has led the boards to pay more attention to the Ayurvedic and Unani systems. Another handicap to Western medical science is the dearth of efficient and reliable nurses.

The expenditure on sanitary works for rural areas was again very small, and in default of support from the public as a whole boards can do very little. The district health staffs can at present do little more than combat epidemic diseases and promote the cause of vaccination, but something is being done in educating the masses in hygiene. Whether without a radical change in economic conditions a substantial rise in sanitary ideals is possible is another matter, but a step has been taken in the right direction.

Further details on medicine, public health and vaccination will be found in chapter VI of this report.

**Communica-
tions.**

118. Local roads in all districts are now controlled by district boards. Complaints of their deterioration are widespread, and though some boards, notably Meerut and Muttra, have made a strenuous effort to retrieve the ground lost in the previous two years, the majority fail in the satisfactory organization of road repairs. Personal and party feelings play too great a part in the selection of their public works staff, and they are too capricious in fixing their grants for road construction and repair. However, an increase of over three lakhs for original work and two lakhs for repairs is a forward step.

19. Municipal boards

(See the review of the working of municipal boards for the year ending March 31, 1926.)

(See also tables 137 to 140 of the Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue, 1926)

119. The triennial elections held in December, 1925 and January, 1926 were hotly contested. No less than 60 election petitions were filed of which only nine were successful. The condition of the boards as a whole continued to improve. Attendance at meetings was generally satisfactory and with a few exceptions there was an improvement in the conduct of business. The total number of meetings held and the number of adjourned and abortive meetings decreased. There was an improvement in collections but there is still room for considerable further improvement especially in regard to arrears of water tax. Accounts are generally in an unsatisfactory condition and boards are prone to neglect rules and overlook neglect of rules on the part of their servants. As a result embezzlement is increasing. Some of the larger towns are reconstructing their roads with modern materials; and electric lighting was introduced in two towns. Eight others had schemes in different stages of development.

General.

120. The total income increased by Rs. 6.50 lakhs to Rs. 1,55.43 lakhs. The increase is made up of larger government grants which totalled Rs. 13.08 lakhs compared with Rs. 8.23 lakhs in the previous year and increased receipts of municipal revenue from sources other than taxation which amounted to Rs. 34.86 lakhs compared with Rs. 32.14 lakhs. These heads together with a small rise of Rs. 0.13 lakh in the realizations under special Acts showed a total improvement of Rs. 7.70 lakhs against which a fall of Rs. 0.73 lakh under taxation and of Rs. 0.34 lakh under miscellaneous receipts have to be recorded. Less satisfactory are the increases under loans and sale-proceeds of securities which rose from Rs. 5.55 lakhs to Rs. 7.60 lakhs and from Rs. 1.54 lakhs to Rs. 7.93 lakhs respectively.

Income.

121. The total receipts from taxation decreased from Rs. 1,02.54 lakhs to Rs. 1,01.81 lakhs. The chief decreases were Rs. 1.29 lakhs under terminal toll, Rs. 0.47 lakhs under tax on

(A) From
taxation.

circumstances and property, Rs. 0.31 lakh under tolls (roads and ferries) and Rs. 0.27 lakh under tax on trades and professions. Terminal tax on the other hand yielded Rs. 1.08 lakhs more than in the previous year and there were also smaller increases in receipts from pilgrim taxes, house taxes, water-rate and taxes on vehicles and animals.

Octroi was introduced in two more municipalities but in spite of an extra income of Rs. 0.32 lakh on this account the total receipts declined by Rs. 0.08 lakh. More supervision is needed. In one board refunds amounted to 37.96 per cent. of the gross receipts and refunds of from 20 per cent. to 30 per cent. of the gross receipts are not uncommon.

(B) From
other
sources.

122. Increases under nearly every head of revenue from sources other than taxation more than balanced the loss in receipts from taxation. The largest increase was of Rs. 1.22 lakhs from the sale of water. Greater interest and supervision caused an improvement of Rs. 0.74 lakh from rents of houses and lands; and sales of land and produce yielded Rs. 0.43 lakh more than in the previous year.

Expendi-
ture.

123. The total expenditure excluding debt heads increased from Rs. 1,39.71 lakhs to Rs. 1,54.03 lakhs.

With the exception of a decrease of Rs. 0.59 lakh under water supply and a minor decrease under arboriculture every head of expenditure showed an increase. General administration and collection charges rose from Rs. 16.10 lakhs to Rs. 16.82 lakhs. Lighting and fire protection cost Rs. 11.79 lakhs—an increase of Rs. 1.54 lakhs. Capital outlay on drainage rose from Rs. 5.12 lakhs to Rs. 7.24 lakhs, and conservancy, already the heaviest charge, cost Rs. 1.17 lakhs more. The increased outlay on drainage is satisfactory as are also the increases of Rs. 3.48 lakhs in the amount spent on roads and Rs. 0.80 lakh on hospitals and dispensaries. Education cost Rs. 15.19 lakhs compared with Rs. 14.07 lakhs. The decrease of Rs. 0.42 lakh in establishment charges connected with water supply indicates greater efficiency.

Conservancy absorbed 15.9 per cent. of the total income, water supply 13.1, roads 11.4, administration 10.9 and education 9.8.

There was a disappointing decrease of Rs. 3.97 lakhs in the amount invested in securities and savings banks but the boards managed to provide Rs. 6.64 lakhs for the repayment of loans compared with 6.27 lakhs in the previous year.

124. Although the total income exceeded expenditure by only Rs. 1.40 lakhs the general position is fairly satisfactory. The closing balance rose from Rs. 35.16 lakhs to Rs. 39.33 lakhs, while indebtedness decreased from Rs. 1,19.90 lakhs to Rs. 1,19.86 lakhs. The most disquieting features of the year are the large sales of securities and the decline in the amount of invested funds from Rs. 29.67 lakhs to Rs. 27.60 lakhs. This, however, is an improvement on 1923-24 when indebtedness was Rs. 120.80 lakhs and invested funds were only Rs. 21.33 lakhs. When it is remembered that roads, education and medical services have all benefited considerably by increased expenditure during the year under review there is still more room for satisfaction.

Financial
position.

A closer scrutiny of expenditure on general administration and collections, more supervision over octroi and greater control over the collection of water-rates and the wastage of water would result in further improvement.

125. Except in the Kumaun and Fyzabad divisions there was a general increase in the expenditure on roads, the total of which rose by Rs. 3.48 lakhs to Rs. 17.69 lakhs. Lucknow alone spent over two lakhs more than in the previous year and has a definite programme for the construction of bitumen bound roads. Agra has applied for a loan and a grant for the construction of similar roads of which the superiority and ultimate economy are being realized. Benares and some other towns have made strenuous efforts to improve their roads, but many boards continue neglectful and some have diverted the money earmarked for roads to other purposes.

Municipal
services :
Roads.

126. Thirteen towns now have a municipal water supply. Five worked at a profit and the remainder at a loss. Inequitable water-rates and the penalizing of consumers who have meters partly account for the separation of their water supply

Water
supply.

Chi
TI

by some of the larger consumers like railways and cantonments. The number of meter connexions is very small and the problems of waste prevention and accurate accounting are far from solution.

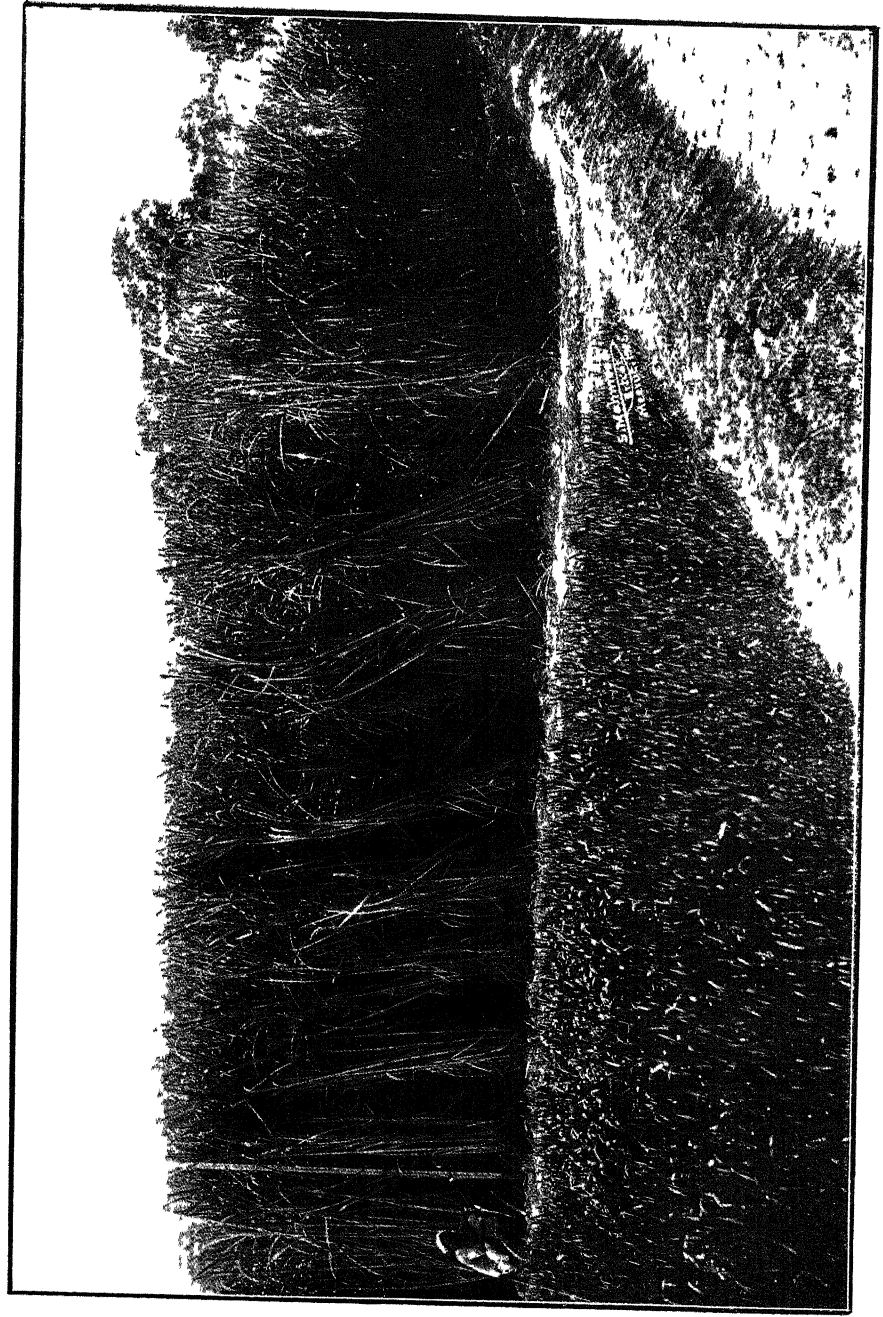
Except at Agra and Jhansi there was no shortage of water, but at Allahabad there was a complete breakdown of the plant during the monsoon season of 1926 and it was several months before a normal supply was re-established. Improvements in the supplies at Mussoorie, Dehra Dun and Naini Tal were effected; and at Allahabad a tube well was commenced with the object of providing a permanent water supply for the *Magh mela*. Benares, Agra and Jhansi are all contemplating improvements.

Lighting

127. Electric light was introduced during the year in Agra and Saharanpur. Aligarh, Muttra, Jhansi, Roorkee, Benares, Hathras, Bareilly and Gorakhpur will eventually be electrified. In Aligarh, Muttra and Jhansi licences have been given to private companies, while in Mussoorie the municipality is itself managing a scheme to provide current to Dehra Dun.

Vital statistics.

128. Both the birth-rate and the death-rate declined. Mortality from plague and cholera was very low but that from small-pox was more than doubled. Maternity and child welfare attract increasing attention in the cities and there are now 51 hospitals where training is given to indigenous *dais* and midwives.



Co 204 Sugarcane at the Muzaffarnagar Farm on land at one time considered too poor to grow sugarcane

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

20. Agricultural produce.

(See *Season and Crop report for the year ending June 30, 1926.*)

(See also tables 165 to 167 and 294 to 296 of the *Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue, 1926.*)

129. In June and July rainfall was above normal in all districts except those in the Gorakhpur division and sowings for the *kharif* commenced early. In August heavy falls of rain in the first half of the month which caused floods on the Gomti and Rapti rivers were followed by a period of fine weather which held until the last day of the month. Except in the Rohilkhand division and the districts of Gorakhpur and Fyzabad the rainfall for the month was below normal. After giving general but unevenly distributed rain in the first part of the month the monsoon retreated by the middle of September. The rainfall for the month was very deficient in the western districts and above normal in the Benares and Lucknow divisions. The season was, on the whole, unfavourable to the *kharif* crop which in some districts suffered from excessive rain and in others from drought.

Character
of the
season

October and November brought numerous but light falls of rain which were followed by a rainless December. Light showers in January were confined to the Agra, Meerut and Rohilkhand divisions. Although the crops were benefited by rain in the early part of February untimely storms in March together with abnormally wet weather in April and May did considerable damage to a *rabi* crop which owing to the lack of moisture in the soil at the time of sowing was already restricted in area.

130. The net cropped area fell from 34,517,181 acres to 34,196,050 acres, which was 2·5 per cent. below normal. In Muttra district alone there was a decrease of 96,940 acres. An increase in the area in the Gorakhpur and Fyzabad divisions

Cultivated
area.

combined with a large decrease in the Agra, Lucknow, Rohilkhand and Meerut divisions gave a net increase in the *kharif* area of one per cent. above the area in 1924. It was still, however, 9.6 per cent. below normal.

In the *rabi* area there was a decrease of 5.5 per cent. shared by all divisions except Allahabad and Benares. The net cropped area, however, was 0.7 per cent. above normal. The decrease was most marked in Muttra (25.9 per cent.), Muzaffarnagar (18.5), Saharanpur (16.3) and Meerut (14.7).

Of the autumn crops while sugarcane did not reach the level of 1923 the area was still ten per cent. more than in 1924 and 18.5 per cent. above normal. The season was also favourable to rice, especially late rice, which was ten per cent. above normal. *Bajra* and *juar* were sown late owing to the continuous rain in June and July and the areas sown were 215,000 and 58,000 acres less than in 1924 or 23 per cent. and 21 per cent. respectively below normal. The area under indigo increased by 2,300 acres and high prices caused an increase of 68,000 or 38.4 per cent. in the area under hemp which was 244,581 acres or 135.2 per cent. above normal.

The lack of moisture in the seed bed caused a large decrease in the area under all the principal spring crops. Wheat decreased by 519,000 acres, barley by 219,000 acres, gram by 175,000 and linseed by 52,000. Even so the area under wheat was normal, and that under gram sixteen per cent. above normal. Barley and linseed were respectively 16 and 23 per cent. below normal.

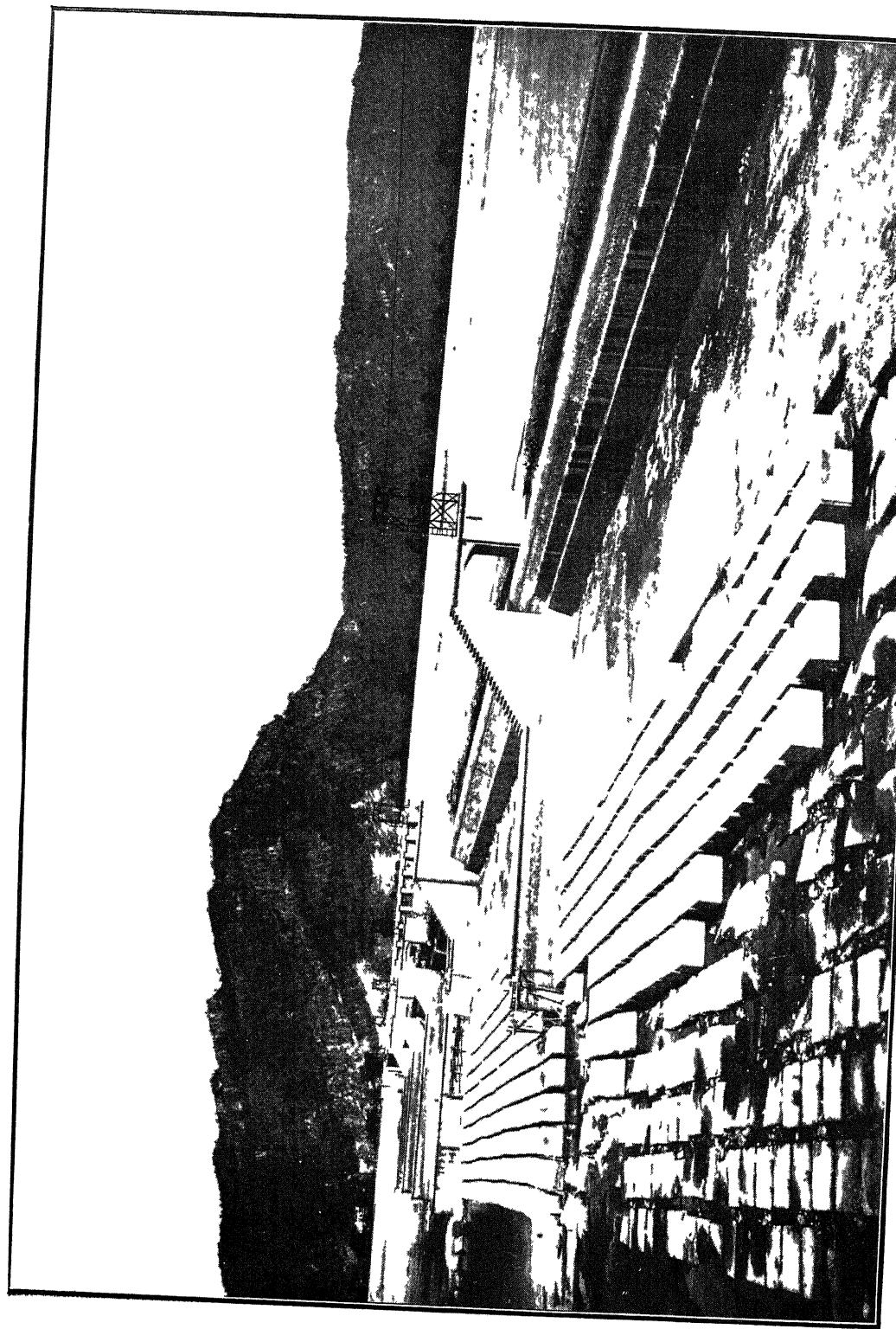
Yield of
 crops.

131. Taking 100 as the full outturn which might be expected in normal circumstances from the area sown, sugarcane rose from 70 to 90, while the outturn of all other principal *kharif* crops was between 70 and 75. The yields of barley and wheat remained at 85 and 75 while linseed and rapeseed both fell from 80 to 70 and opium from 100 to 80. The yield of gram which does not require much moisture improved from 80 to 85.

Prices.

132. There was a general rise in prices during the year. Wheat rose from 6½ to 6⅓ seers to the rupee. The highest price was reached in December (5½) and at no period did it return to its opening price of 6½. Barley which opened at 9½ seers to the

1



rupee fell in July to ten and remained at ten till November when it rose to $8\frac{3}{4}$. A further rise to $7\frac{3}{4}$ in February was followed by a drop in April to ten, but by June it had again risen to $8\frac{3}{4}$. The course of gram which rose from $10\frac{1}{2}$ to $9\frac{1}{2}$ seers to the rupee was similar. *Juar* opened at eight and after fluctuations between seven and nine closed at eight. Rice rose from five to 4 6 seers, the lowest price being touched in January when it was six.

21. Irrigation.

(See the *Irrigation Administration report for the year ending March 31, 1926*, and also the *Season and Crop report for the year ending June 30, 1926*.)

(See also tables 166, 288 and 289 of the *Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue, 1926*)

133. Artificial sources of irrigation as opposed to the natural resources contained in rivers, streams and ponds, were increased by the construction of a large number of new wells. The number of masonry wells rose by 5,415 to 754,196, while an increase of over 34,000 in the number of non-masonry wells brought their total to 631,162. The construction of a number of new canals and tanks will in a year or two still further augment the other artificial sources of irrigation which at present consist of 16,123 miles of canal channels and 2,631 tanks.

Sources of
irrigation.

134. Scanty winter rains caused an increase of fifteen per cent. in the total irrigated area. There were 2,805,000 acres irrigated from canals, 4,973,000 acres from wells and 2,447,000 acres from tanks and reservoirs. The percentages of increase in the areas irrigated from canals, wells and reservoirs were 21.4, 15.4 and 8.8 respectively.

Total irriga-
tion of the
year.

135. On the Agra canal the supply of water for the *kharif* was low owing to the late opening of the Hindan cut due to the damage done by the floods of 1924. Elsewhere supplies which were low at the beginning of the *kharif* improved afterwards. The sugarcane crop was somewhat affected by the shortage of supplies. The early cessation of the monsoon and the scanty winter rains caused a keen demand for water throughout the *rabi* season. Of the revenue thus earned,

Area irri-
gated from
public
works.

however, some was absorbed in remissions which had to be given on account of damage done by hail and heavy rain in March. Supplies were, on the whole, sufficient. Of the total area irrigated by canals 37 per cent. was under *kharif* crops and 63 per cent. under *rabi*.

Value of
irrigated
crops

136. The value of crops irrigated by state canals was Rs. 18,80 lakhs compared with Rs. 16,43 lakhs in the previous year.

Financial
results.

137. The gross revenue rose from Rs. 1,16.85 lakhs to Rs. 1,37.58 lakhs and the net revenue from Rs. 6,176 lakhs to Rs. 81.01 lakhs.

Return on
capital
outlay.

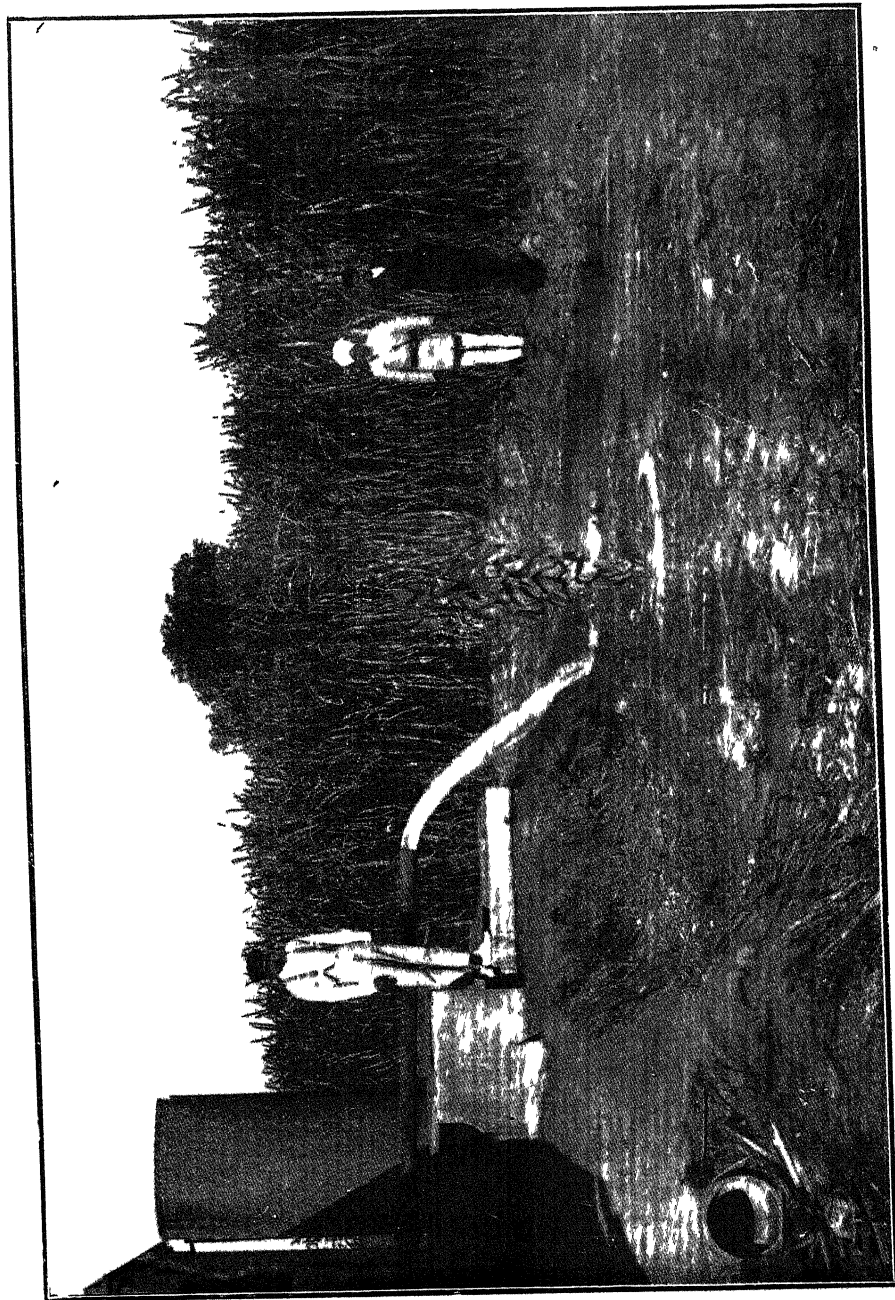
138. Productive works earned a net revenue of Rs. 82.75 lakhs, while a loss of Rs. 1.74 lakhs was incurred on unproductive works. After deducting interest charges the net revenue on productive works was Rs. 26.31 lakhs, which gives a return of 1.72 per cent. on the total capital outlay. If the capital outlay on the Sarda canal which is under construction be excluded the net return comes to 4.37 per cent. On the unproductive works which consist chiefly of the protective works in Bundelkhand the loss on the capital outlay fell from 4.45 per cent. to 4.02.

New
capital
outlay.

139. The total capital expenditure increased by Rs. 1,28.06 lakhs to Rs. 18,29.82 lakhs. Of the new capital Rs. 1,24.26 lakhs were spent on productive works chiefly on the Sarda-Kichha feeder and the Sarda Oudh canals which between them absorbed Rs. 105.99 lakhs. Unseasonable weather delayed progress on the headworks of the Sarda canals but the first four bays of the barrage were completed and the next eight commenced during the year. The Deoha-Bahgul feeder was completed and opened for irrigation with the supplies available in the Deoha river. It is anticipated that a large section of these canals will be opened for irrigation in the *rabi* season of 1928-29. Among other works of importance carried out during the year was the restoration of works on the Ganges, Eastern Jumna and Dun canals which had been damaged by the floods of 1924. Among unproductive works progress was made in the construction of the Jaiwanti and Aunjhar tanks in the Banda district and of the Raipura, Kamalpura

1

1



A successful tube well in Baghpat tahsil, Meerut district

and Belasagar tanks in the Hamirpur district. A number of schemes for improving supplies in Bundelkhand are under consideration.

140. There was a small increase of Rs. 324 in the receipts from navigation due to the fact that owing to good supplies of water being available navigation was carried on for the greater part of the year. The total receipts were Rs. 9,687 and a reduction in establishment and repairing charges brought the expenditure down from Rs. 13,563 to Rs. 11,067. The total tonnage carried was 42,114 tons valued at Rs. 6 11 lakhs. Passenger traffic has ceased altogether since 1922-23.

Naviga-
tion.

141. Two new temporary sub-divisions were opened on the Sarda canal system to expedite work in backward sections. New temporary sub-divisions were also opened on the Upper Agra division for the Jumna training works at Brindaban and for special repairs to the Bhimgoda weir and river training works.

Adminis-
tration.

22. Agricultural development.

(See the reports of the Department of Agriculture for the year ending June 30, 1926 and of the Civil Veterinary Department for the year ending March 31, 1926.)

142. Perhaps in no department of Government has there been so rapid expansion in the past few years as in the Department of Agriculture.

Scope of
the
depart-
ment.

The department has numerous activities. It seeks to improve the means of subsoil irrigation at the disposal of the cultivator. It maintains a number of experimental and demonstration farms. It undertakes complete courses of instruction in agriculture and the sciences related to it. It has a section wholly concerned with the improvement of the breed of cattle, and another devoted to research into the causes and cure of grain diseases. Finally, it acts as a retailer to the public of the improved seeds and implements for which its propaganda has created the demand.

143. Sixty-two tube wells, the highest number yet recorded for a single year, were completed and sixty were under construction at the close of the year. Of those completed 27

Irrigation.

were for power pumping. The boring staff was increased by ten borers and ten mates to 53 borers and 53 mates and carried out 673 borings of which 510 were successful. It has been calculated that the sub-soil water is every year replenished by an amount of rain water more than sufficient to irrigate a crop of wheat on the whole cultivated area. There are thus vast possibilities in this direction. Only the large landholder can usually afford a power installation. For the smaller farmer there would have to be a central supply to command several holdings. But so far, owing to squabbles between the sharers, the system of co-operative management of water supply has failed.

Farms : (a)
Research.

144. There are three research farms-- the Raya cotton farm in the Muttra district, the botanical farm at Cawnpore and the potato research farm at Farrukhabad.

The cotton crop at the Raya farm suffered from unfavourable weather and hence while it was the only research farm which worked at a profit, the profit earned fell from ten thousand rupees to under four thousand. The cotton known as Aligarh 19 continued to spread rapidly in the western districts. The trials of four brands of cotton C255, C402, C520 and C1031 which have been produced in the attempt to find an improved cotton plant capable of withstanding the unfavourable weather of the province were continued. Investigation was also made into the methods of eliminating boll-worm.

In Farrukhabad, the most important potato-growing district of the province, the soil became incapable of producing a vigorous crop owing to over-cropping and this in its turn produced potato disease. A research farm has therefore been opened in order to find a remedy. The Economic Botanist continued his investigation of rice. Preliminary selection done at Cawnpore and trials on a larger scale carried out in the Dehra Dun and Gonda districts have produced some promising types. Improved types of oil-seeds have been isolated, and the area under jute which the department has established in the Sitapur and Kheri districts has increased.

The problems of artificial manure and fodder storage were further investigated.

145. The instructional farm on the estate of the Agricultural College, Cawnpore, continued costly, the net expenditure being Rs. 19,598 compared with Rs. 17,485 in the previous year. The Director has examined the causes of this progressive deterioration and hopes to be able to effect economies. It is clearly desirable that a successful system of commercial farming should be demonstrated to the students on at least a part of the area. The total cost of research and instructional farms was Rs. 22,202, a net deterioration of Rs. 6,369.

(b) Instruc-
tional.

146. An experimental farm must necessarily carry on a large volume of unproductive work. It is therefore satisfactory to record that there was an improvement of nearly eight thousand rupees in the financial results of the six experimental farms at Aligarh, Muzaffarnagar, Shahjahanpur, Cawnpore, Partabgarh and Gorakhpur. A loss of over two thousand rupees has been converted into a profit of nearly six thousand. The farms at Gorakhpur and Shahjahanpur continued to work at a profit and that at Muzaffarnagar, which was converted from a demonstration plot to an experimental farm during the year, made a profit of Rs. 5,478. The results of the Aligarh, Cawnpore and Partabgarh farms which worked at a loss were practically the same as last year.

(c) Experi-
mental.

147. The decision of Government in 1921 that all demonstration farms should be run on a commercial basis has resulted in the closing of some farms and in increased profits in most of the rest. Interest in agriculture has been greatly stimulated. The danger to be avoided is the diversion of the attention of the staff from the study of local conditions to the making of a profit. The results of the Kalai seed farm in the Aligarh district were even better than last year and its profits rose from Rs. 11,770 to Rs. 12,657, giving an average net profit of Rs. 97 per acre over three years. While there was a decline in the profits of the Bulandshahr farm from Rs. 2,856 to Rs. 1,605, the net profits made work out at Rs. 80 per acre. On two farms losses of Rs. 309 and Rs. 83 were converted to profits of Rs. 23 and

(d) Demon-
stration
farms and
plots.

Rs. 994, while on three farms profits rose from Rs. 332, Rs. 393 and Rs. 490 to Rs. 2,455, Rs. 601 and Rs. 1,487. The Atarra farm in the Banda district was the only farm which worked at a loss.

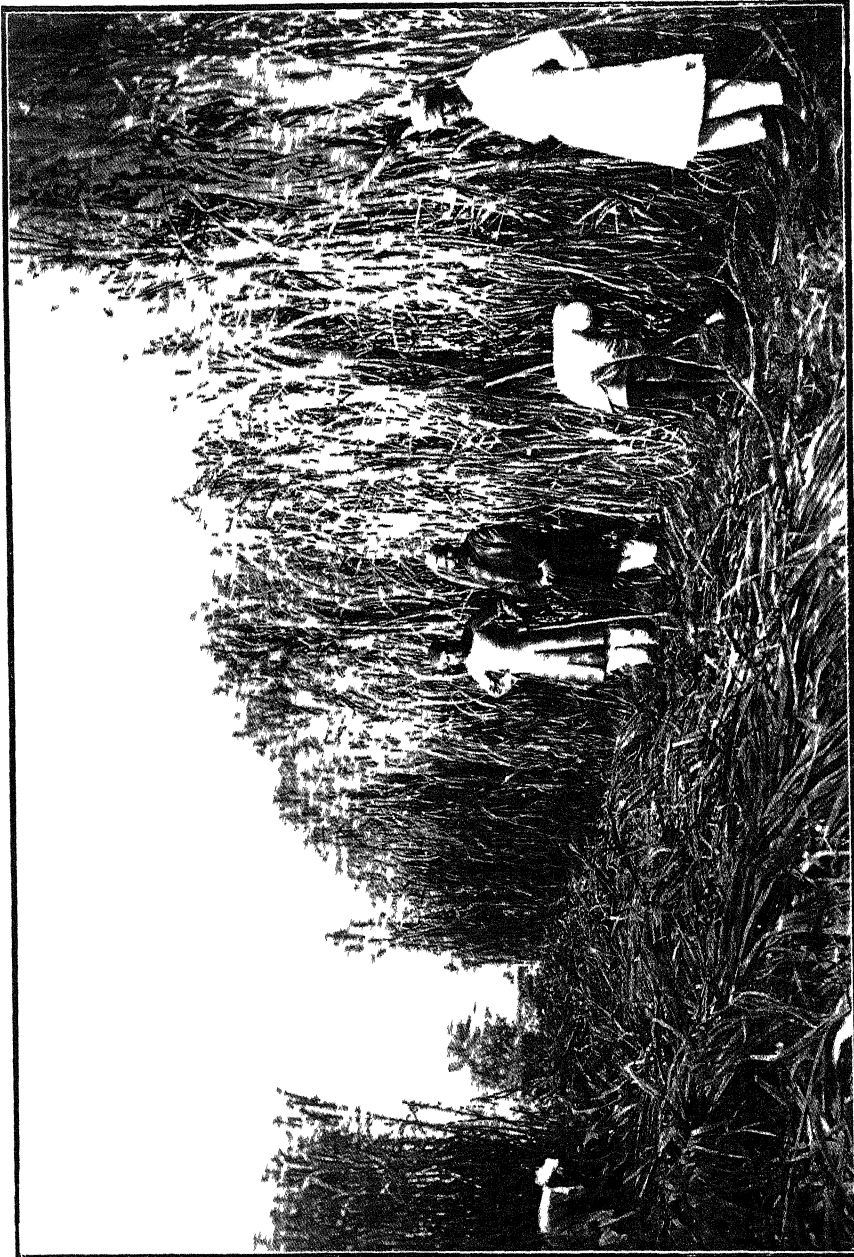
Five demonstration plots and two demonstration tube wells converted a loss of Rs. 664 into a profit of Rs. 435.

In addition to demonstration farms and plots other methods of bringing the work of the department to the notice of the cultivator are demonstrations carried out by the staff on the cultivator's own land: also the cultivation of a plot of land by improved methods, the expenses and profits being shared between the department and the cultivator. The results of this propaganda appear from the increased number of private farms run in imitation of the demonstration farms and from the increased demand for improved seed and agricultural implements. The number of private farms managed with the assistance of the department rose from 504 to 621. One such farm of 60 acres yielded a profit of Rs. 7,380. A new farm of one thousand acres was opened in the Muzapur district.

Results

148. The number of improved ploughs, sugarcane mills and other implements supplied during the year was 9,062 compared with 7,709 in the previous year and 4,570 in 1923-24. Of these 3,319 were improved ploughs. Nearly nine thousand maunds of oilcake for manure were distributed compared with 6,673 maunds in the previous year. In addition 121 maunds of nitrate of soda and 54 maunds of bone manure were issued. As a result of propaganda the Indian agriculturist is learning the value of sulphate of ammonia as manure. Green manures which have given good results on the departmental farms are being brought to the cultivators' notice.

Algarh 19 cotton has spread rapidly. In the districts of Hardoi, Kheri and Shahjahanpur alone 28,614 acres are under improved cane out of a total area under sugarcane of 94,175 acres. In the whole province it is estimated that there are 100,000 acres of improved canes yielding an extra profit of over half a crore of rupees. There are 750,000 acres under improved wheat yielding an extra income of fifteen rupees an acre and 200,000 acres under improved cotton.



Java S 48 Sugarcane on a private Farm at Seohra district Bijnor

149. From departmental centres 105,052 maunds of improved seed were issued during the year compared with 71,199 maunds in the previous year, and many thousands of maunds were sold from private farms managed with the advice of the department. The number of seed dépôts increased from 93 to 127. Three central seed stores were opened in 1925 and six more were established in 1926.

150. The entomological and pathological laboratories at the Agricultural college, Cawnpore, were completed during the year, and additional chemical and physical laboratories and a departmental library were under construction.

There were 78 students in the four-year course and 50 in the two-year course and the number of applications for admissions rose from 131 to 158. Twenty students out of 21 candidates passed the L. Ag. examination conducted by outside examiners. In the final examination of the two-year course there were twelve successes and six failures. The recognition of the college by the Board of High School and Intermediate Education has caused Zoology and English to be added to the first part of the diploma course and a lecturer on Zoology has been appointed. Fifteen passed students of the college were engaged by the British Sulphate of Ammonia Federation for propaganda work in the United Provinces.

The agricultural school at Bulandshahr which provides secondary education had a successful year. There were 49 students in residence. Sixteen appeared in the final examination and all passed. A class has been opened for the training of engine drivers. It attracted thirteen applications for admission of which five were accepted. Only 36 out of 54 applications for admission to the two-year course were accepted and out of eighteen applications for the fieldmen course eight were rejected. Teachers from selected district board schools are receiving instruction in agricultural subjects with the object of stimulating greater interest in agriculture among their pupils.

151. The cattle-breeding section of the department has three main activities. It seeks to produce and distribute good bulls; it investigates problems connected with the production and

marketing of milk, and of producing and storing fodder. Better feeding is no less necessary than better breeding if the cattle of the province are to be substantially improved.

The Madhurikund farm in the Muttra district consists of 613 acres to which 783 acres are being added. The breeding herds maintained comprise 200 animals of the Hissar breed, 45 draft cattle, and 13 English cross-breeds in addition to 25 of other breeds. Experience in the controlled breeding areas in the Muttra and Etawah districts has shown that the Hissar breed is by far the most suitable for draft purposes. With a view to examining the milk capacity of this breed a dairy farm has been started. The number of bulls issued from the farm rose from 46 to 90 of which 67 were of the Hissar breed. No animals are now kept above the age of two years on the farm and the willingness of breeders to take them young and care for them properly has reduced the cost of the animals to Government by one-third. Arrangements have been made for the purchase of animals for the Murrah buffalo herd.

The Manjhra farm in the Kheri district consists of 553 acres of which 324 acres were cultivated for the production of fodder. The herds maintained numbered 355 of which 103 were Sahiwal, 104 Murrah, and 107 Kherigarh. In the Sahiwal it is hoped to find a milk producer which though yielding less milk than the buffalo, will in the long run prove cheaper owing to its greater ability to withstand the climate.

Cattle are now issued in the controlled breeding areas of Muttra and Etawah on payment of one-third of the value of the animal instead of free on loan. So far 35 bulls have been issued on these terms and the demand is increasing. There are 374 bulls of various kinds at stud in the districts. Nine district boards have accepted grants from Government for the purchase of bulls for issue to the public.

Fodder.

152. Fodder crops now under trial include sunflower, saccoline or sweet *juar*, and bamboo, and in addition to making 35,000 maunds of silage at the Manjhra farm, the staff of the department demonstrated the making of silage in the Muttra district.

153. The Agra milk collecting scheme continued to develop and the promoter has started a scheme for supplying milk to Naini Tal. The Hathras scheme continued to work but not with the success obtained at Agra.

Marketing
of milk.

154. Research work on the diseases of fowls was continued at the poultry farm at Badshahbagh research station.

(b) Poultry.

155. Six stallions were purchased during the year but owing to twelve casualties the number of government stallions fell to 51. The prevalence of surra in the breeding districts reduced the number of mares covered by 373 to 2,108. The issue of covering and foaling certificates promises to have good results. There was an increase of 33 in the number of mares covered by the thirteen donkey stallions.

(c) Horse
breeding.

156. From May, 1925 to January, 1926 rinderpest was virulent and accounted for 24,778 deaths compared with 7,871 in the previous year. In place of the normal allotment of Rs. 25,000 for serum Government gave over one lakh; more money could have been usefully spent had it been available. Mortality from other diseases was high and included 6,590 deaths from foot and mouth disease 4,053 from haemorrhagic septicaemia, 404 from black quarter and 1,879 from anthrax.

Diseases
among
livestock.

Surra was in epidemic form in many districts and accounted for 787 out of a total of 924 deaths among horses.

The total animal mortality rose from 18,050 to 40,738.

157. The total number of inoculations and vaccinations rose from 65,108 to 145,956. In 42 districts 115,488 cattle were inoculated in 915 outbreaks of rinderpest compared with 44,855 in 354 outbreaks in the previous year. In addition 30,007 cattle were inoculated against haemorrhagic septicaemia. There were 241 deaths among 143,372 inoculated cattle while 15,869 uninoculated cattle died.

Treatment.

The number of hospitals and dispensaries rose from 129 to 137 and the number of cases treated from 181,282 to 212,828 exclusive of 30,082 cases treated at home.

Establish-
ment and
cost—(a)
Department
of
Agriculture.

158. The strength of the department was increased by the creation of one Provincial Agricultural service post, one post of lecturer in Zoology, nine posts in the Subordinate Agricultural service and ten posts in the fieldmen cadre. The budget allotment was increased by a supplementary grant of Rs. 1.33 lakhs and the total expenditure of the department was Rs. 19.40 lakhs. The income was Rs. 3.17 lakhs.

(b) Civil
Veterinary
Department.

159. There was an increase of three veterinary assistant surgeons during the year, one of whom was an officer appointed in Garhwal temporarily to help in the campaign against rinderpest; one was on deputation to Mesopotamia. The cost of the department fell from Rs. 3.17 lakhs to Rs. 2.27 lakhs.

Conclusion.

160. The veterinary staff in the districts is too small adequately to deal with the work before it. The segregation rules under the Glanders and Farcy Act are felt to be not sufficiently stringent, and the total failure of district and municipal boards to deal with the question of stray dogs makes the elimination of rabies impossible. Every year the number of persons who have to attend the Pasteur institute increases.

23. Horticulture.

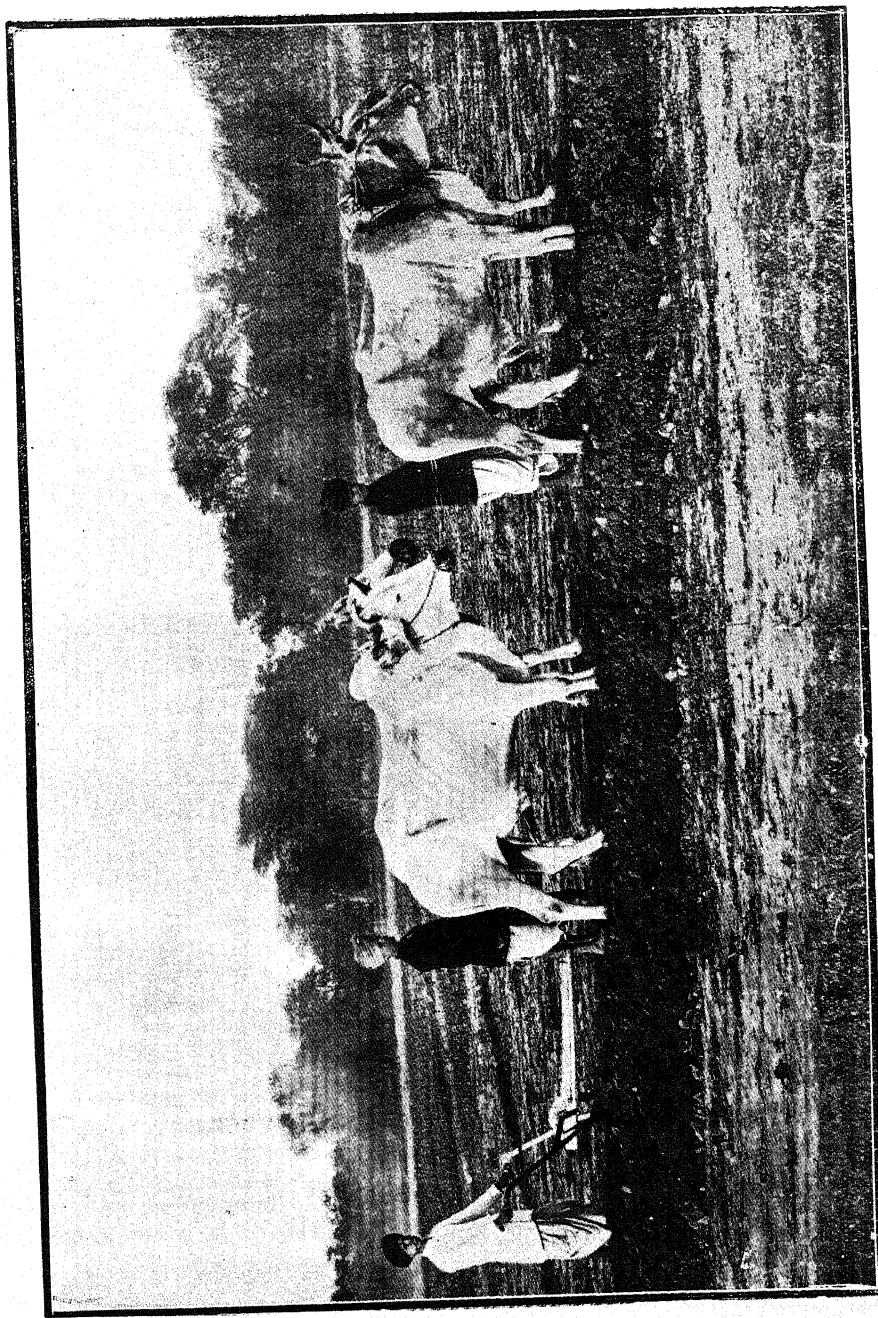
(See the report on Government Gardens for the year ending March 31, 1926.)

Administra-
tion.

161. With the exception of the grounds of the Thomason hospital at Agra which were transferred to the Medical Department the number of public gardens under the control of the Director of Agriculture was unchanged. Seven gardens remained in the charge of the district officers concerned.

Work of the
year.

162. The season generally was favourable except that, owing to the early cessation of the monsoon, the unusual warmth of September and October adversely affected some early sowings of seed. The government orchard at Chaubattia which was leased to a contractor at an annual rent of Rs. 1,000, yielded a record crop during the year. At Saharanpur 1,250 fruit trees were planted and 1,800 pounds of vegetable and flower seeds were produced. Sixty-six schools and colleges



Large iron plough working in dry land with two pairs of bullocks, Aligarh Farm.

received a free supply of seeds from the Lucknow Horticultural gardens. The eleven gardens in the Agra group and the four gardens at Naini Tal were maintained in excellent condition.

163. The economy effected by the reorganization of the Garden circle was maintained and the net charges for the year fell from Rs. 1 25 lakhs to Rs. 1·24 lakhs. If to this the cost of the Deputy Director of Agriculture in charge and his staff be added, and the contribution of Rs. 47,122 from the Central Government on account of the maintenance of the archaeological gardens be deducted, the net charges amount to Rs. 90,315.

Financial
results.

24 Forests.

(See the report on Forest Administration for the year ending March 31, 1926)

(See also tables 169 and 170 of the Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue, 1926.)

164. In addition to disforestation over an area of sixteen square miles an area of 1,916 square miles of class I forests in Kumaun (not of immediate commercial importance) has been transferred to the control of local authorities in pursuance of the recommendations of the Kumaun Forest Grievances Committee and the total area under the direct control of the Forest Department fell from 7,305 square miles to 5,228 square miles. The area disforested has increased from 139 square miles to 155 square miles. Proposals are being considered to manage some of the transferred areas by village *panchayats* in the hope of arresting the destruction of the forests in these areas, which has already begun. One hundred and forty-three square miles of leased forests were handed back to the Tehri-Garhwal darbar after sixty years of departmental management in a condition for which the darbar has expressed its gratitude.

Area.

165. The number of fires ascribed to malice fell from 54 to four and of the total area protected from fire only 0·4 per cent. was burnt compared with 3·2 per cent. in the previous year. The cost of protection fell from Rs. 33 to Rs. 30 per square

Protection:
from fire.

mile. In the Kumaun circle over 40,000 acres of forest under commercial working and over 12,000 acres of open forest round villages were burnt under expert supervision. The villagers provided free labour for the latter.

(b) from
injuries due
to natural
causes.

166. Plantations in the North Kheri and Gonda forest divisions were damaged by floods. Those in the North Kheri division had to be abandoned. The measures evolved by the Forest Entomologist for attacking the *sal* borer proved beneficial in Dehra Dun but the pest has spread to the Lansdowne, Ramnagar and other divisions. Fungus did considerable damage to *chir* forests in the Almora district, and wild animals, especially deer, pig, porcupine and, in Pilibhit, a herd of wild elephants took their toll.

(c) from
crime.

167. Convictions were obtained in 114 cases out of 146 taken to court. There were 4,155 offences compounded.

Communi-
cations:
Roads and
bridges.

168. Expenditure on roads and bridges fell from Rs. 2.20 lakhs to Rs. 1.68 lakhs of which only Rs. 31,547 were for new construction. The lack of sufficient roads in Kumaun is a handicap to the full development of the forests.

Tramways.

169. The Nandhaur valley tramway consisting of sixteen miles of two feet track with steam traction was completed during the year at a total cost of Rs. 1.79 lakhs. A revenue of Rs. 52,000 representing a return of nearly 30 per cent. on the outlay was earned in three and a half months working, and cartage rates have already been reduced owing to competition.

The Dehra Dun tramway was removed to the Gorakhpur division after it had earned Rs. 28,312 with a total expenditure of Rs. 49,392.

The tramway from Lachhmipur to Chauraha in the Gorakhpur division which is 25 miles long has been completed at a total cost of Rs. 3.50 lakhs.

Buildings.

170. The total expenditure incurred on buildings was Rs. 1,64,165 of which Rs. 1,09,212 were spent on repairs. Some improvement in the condition of buildings for the use of subordinates has been provided for by an increased grant for the year 1926-27 of which Rs. 1,21,500 have been allotted for new works and Rs. 93,480 for repairs.

171. The problem of the regeneration of *sal* is by no means solved. The coppice and Taungya plantation systems, however, have given good results, and controlled firing opens up a more hopeful prospect for the future. Of artificial means of reproduction that of sowing *sal* to fill blanks in areas under reproduction is too expensive to be carried out on a large scale. On the other hand controlled burning is expected to facilitate ultimately the regeneration of *chir*.

Afforestation in the ravines of the Jumna and Chambal rivers was continued and over 2,000 acres were sown with *babul*, *khair* and *shisham*. *Babul*, which is easily damaged by frost and is not long lived, has been replaced by *khair* to a great extent in afforestation schemes. The afforestation division has treated 14,219 acres and the cost to date is Rs. 4.45 lakhs.

172. The position as regards working plans is satisfactory. Working-plans. Plans are in hand for practically the whole area for which original plans are required. The system of revising plans every ten years is being fully adhered to and may be described as the most important factor in the forest administration of the province. It ensures the forests being worked to their fullest extent while any error in the direction of over-working can be corrected before serious results occur.

173. The total value of produce removed from forests was Rs. 61.88 lakhs of which Rs. 37.15 lakhs represents the value of timber, Rs. 9.15 lakhs that of fuel, Rs. 1.99 lakhs that of bamboos, and Rs. 13.59 lakhs that of minor produce. There was a decrease in the production of *deodar* and *chir* timber due to the transfer of the leased forests. Of minor products resin amounting to 47,612 maunds was extracted departmentally for supply to the Indian Turpentine and Rosin Company, which declared a dividend of ten per cent. Exploita-
tion.

The Utilization division remained in the charge of an extra assistant conservator of forests who was engaged among other matters in inquiries into timber prices and possibilities regarding match factories.

Financial
results.

174. The percentage of forest area open to grazing fell from 69 to 58 owing to the exclusion of class I forests in the Kumaun circle, and there was a fall of 3,919 to 1,065,203 in the number of cattle for which grazing was provided.

175. The gross revenue of the department was Rs. 64.22 lakhs while the total expenditure was Rs. 37.27 lakhs of which Rs. 12 lakhs was direct expenditure incurred in the marketing of forest produce and the realization of revenue and Rs. 25.27 lakhs indirect expenditure due to maintenance charges. The Eastern circle gave a surplus of Rs. 18.29 lakhs, the Western circle Rs. 10.67 lakhs and the Kumaun circle Rs. 1.59 lakhs, while there was a deficit of Rs. 2.23 lakhs in the Working Plans circle of which Rs. 1.11 is due to afforestation. The surplus in the Kumaun circle was accidental being due to the late supply of crude resin of the 1924-25 season. The circle is not expected to do more than pay its way.

25. Mines and quarries.

(See table 313 of the Statistical Abstract for British India,
fourth issue, 1926)

Mines.

176. Traces of gold were again reported from the Sona Nadi range in the Garhwal district where ten tolas of gold valued at Rs. 25 were extracted at a cost of Rs. 225.

Quarries

177. While there was a further decrease of 4114.5 tons in the amount of limestone extracted there was an increased production of slates (15,451 tons), building stones (400,094 tons), ballast (208,206 tons), soapstone (107 tons), *kankar* (1,175,443 tons) and sand (4,124 tons).

The most remarkable feature was an increase of 258,666 tons in the production of *kankar* which had been steadily decreasing. This increase was most probably due to an increased demand in order to repair the damage done by the floods of 1924. Owing to a combine among manufacturers the price of cement rose from Rs. 28 to Rs. 55 per ton.

26. Industrial output.

(See the report of the Industries Department for the year ending March 31, 1926.)

(See also tables 298 to 311 of the Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue, 1926.)

178. The condition of industry was depressed. Cotton remained in a critical state, oil experienced a set back, and wool, tanning and blown glass were unprofitable. Engineering made slow progress. The coal position, however, was easier and labour was plentiful. The industrial progress of the province has a number of difficulties in its path. The spirit of financial enterprise is weak. Many factory owners are ignorant of how best to adapt machinery to local conditions; and there is a dearth of skilled mechanics. Manual labour is frequently disliked by those who possess the intelligence to become mechanics, and, finally, the old aversion to change in industrial conditions still handicaps progress. General.

179. The fall in the price of raw cotton and of yarn continued, leaving little profit to the manufacturer of yarn. No new mills were started and the number of spindles in the existing 21 mills decreased by 6,478. Ginning and pressing, however, benefited by the fall in the price of raw cotton and a number of new factories were started where none existed previously. Leading industries :
Cotton

The reduction in the price of mill-made cloth practically counteracted the benefit given to handloom weaving by the reduced prices of mill-made yarn.

The year was marked by the introduction of the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act and by the abolition of the cotton excise duty.

All textile goods required for government departments to the value of Rs. 6·28 lakhs were made and purchased in the province. Seven model weaving schools and 22 aided weaving schools were opened during the year. To help weavers in obtaining yarn at reasonable prices it was decided to supply yarn to co-operative societies through the Stores Purchase Department.

180. Small metal-working industries worked by hand generally made little progress and in some places deteriorated. The lock makers at Aligarh, however, had a prosperous year and there was a slight advance in the number of orders executed by the large engineering works.

American and European competition and the small demand for machinery in a province of small agricultural holdings are among the chief obstacles to the progress of engineering. To correct defects in the metal working industries attempts are being made at one of the engineering schools to devise improved hand machines, and a government metal working school was started at Aligarh. The requirements of government departments to the value of nearly three lakhs were supplied by the purchase through the Stores Purchase Department of articles of Indian manufacture. Aligarh locks were substituted for Chubbs locks in government treasuries.

Silk.

181. There was an improvement in the condition of the silk weaving industry. Power factories are displacing hand-weaving ones. A new silk factory was opened at Bareilly and the two waste silk factories opened at Almora in 1924 made good progress. Benares held its own against China. Special demonstrations in the use of fast colours for dyeing silk were arranged for the benefit of the silk manufacturers at Benares. Government are considering whether it is possible to introduce sericulture as a cottage industry in the province.

Gold thread.

182. While the imposition of a duty on imported gold thread enabled the local industry to withstand foreign competition the output was reduced owing to the small demand. Some of the power factories were closed for most of the year and one went into liquidation. Benares is the chief centre, but Agra, where a few new factories using small machines were opened, is making headway.

Wool.

183. Although the number of looms increased by 43 and that of spindles by 150, there was a decrease of 611 in the average number of operatives employed. The increased import of shoddy goods which were cheapened by the depreciated exchanges of France and Italy adversely affected the industry. There

was, however, a keen demand for handloom products. Blanket weaving at Najibabad and Muzaffarnagar had a successful year and the new industry of *pashmina* weaving made great strides at Almorā.

Government weaving schools were started at Najibabad and Almorā for teaching improved methods of weaving. To encourage the establishment of spinning factories Government sanctioned the erection of an up to date wool-spinning plant for demonstration purposes at the Government Textile school, Cawnpore. Woollen goods to the value of two lakhs were supplied by provincial firms to the Jail and Police Departments.

184. The demand for sugar was constant and although owing to low prices sugar manufacturers did not make the profits which might have been expected from the cheapness of cane, they had a successful year. One new factory was started at Gorakhpur and extensions were made to several existing factories. The high price of *gur*, however, did not permit of its being used for making sugar, and sugar refineries had a bad year. The Maha Lakshmi Sugar Corporation to which a loan was given in 1924-25 made considerable progress towards the completion of its equipment. A large number of candidates applied for admission to the class opened in connexion with the erection of a sugar crushing plant at the Government Technological institute. In 1926 a foreign scholarship for the study of sugar was awarded. Sugar.

185. The tanning industry at Cawnpore was in a satisfactory condition but that at Agra had a difficult year. The leather workers of Cawnpore were fully employed but the demand at Agra and Lucknow was very dull. Leather.

Several new leather-working schools were opened during the year. Sanction was given to the opening of a government tanning school at Fatehpur and a long-term foreign scholarship for tanning was awarded.

186. While the price of oil seeds was high that of oil was comparatively low and the crushing of *mahua* seed practically ceased during the last months of the year. With the help of the Oil Expert, however, considerable extensions took place and Oil.

the erection of a large solvent extraction plant was commenced at Cawnpore by one firm while another firm added a soap works to its plant. Paints, varnish and linseed oil to the value of Rs. 28,452 were purchased from local manufacturers by Government.

Glass.

187. Except for bangle-making at Firozabad where three new factories were opened the glass industry was depressed. Foreign and extra-provincial competition, the high prices of raw material, the low prices of the finished article and unfavourable railway freights all contributed to this. While the prices of bottles and globes came down to the pre-war level, wages and the price of soda ash were more than 50 per cent. higher than before the war.

Wood-working.

188. New factories were started in the higher grade wood-working industry in which the demand for labour exceeded the supply.

The Government Central Wood-Working institute at Bareilly supplied 716 prints to customers in addition to its experimental, research and kiln-seasoning work. A number of new carpentry schools were opened and the Stores Purchase Department undertook the standardization and centralized purchase of furniture for government departments.

Dyeing and printing.

189. Dyeing was hampered by the depression in the weaving industry but some of the large dye houses at Cawnpore made extensions. Except at Farrukhabad, Kanauj and Muttra the printing industry continued to decline, especially at Lucknow. The dyeing and printing school at Cawnpore and the peripatetic school conducted a large number of demonstrations. *Pugris* dyed in the province were supplied to the police force to the value of Rs. 55,350.

Carpets.

190. The output of Mirzapur carpets was 40 per cent. below normal owing to the deterioration in quality and the accumulation of stocks in London. The output at Agra declined by twenty per cent. owing to the poor demand and the inability of workers to get yarn at reasonable prices. The durrie weavers at Agra had a successful year.

A demonstration dyeing factory and a wool spinning plant which will shortly be established at Agra will benefit the carpet weavers there.

191. Benares brassware, Nagina ebony work and *chikan* and other artistic products of Lucknow were all depressed. Pottery was everywhere in a decaying condition and Saharanpur carving was stationary. Moradabad brassware did better than Benares.

Artistic
industries.

It has been decided to establish an agency in London for the sale of artistic products as an adjunct to the Arts and Crafts emporium at Lucknow. The experiments made at Moradabad and Nagina of giving training in the production of better patterns were successful and another training school was started at Benares for the benefit of the brass industry. A scheme for developing and reviving the pottery industry has been sanctioned, and financial assistance was given to a *chikan* manufacturer of Lucknow and a jeweller of Allahabad.

192. The price of shellac fell by more than two-thirds and there was little demand. A loan of Rs. 5,000 was advanced to a new match factory at Muttra. There was an improvement in the condition of the makers of scientific instruments and the ampoules and test tubes made at Allahabad have obtained great popularity. Soap, hosiery, and brushware were almost stationary. The only paper mills in the province report that the 25 per cent. protection enabled them to make up some of their losses of 1925.

Other
industries.

27. Industrial development.

(See the report of the Department of Industries for the year 1925-26.)

193. Some account has already been given of the activities of the Industries Department in connexion with the description of various industries in the preceding section.

General.

The most important event of the year was the publication of the report of the Burn Committee to the effect that the working of the department was being conducted on sound lines. Government carried out a large number of the recommendations made in the report, spending nearly two lakhs in the current year.

Education.

194. Over 40 new government and aided technical schools were opened during the year, and the total number of such schools rose to 98 at which 3,300 pupils were receiving instruction. The staff of the Technological Institute continued to contribute notes on different subjects to various technical journals. A list of unemployed students is maintained by the department and in March the demand for ex-students of the Technological Institute exceeded the supply.

Two foreign scholarships of the value of £240 each were given for the study of leather working and electrical engineering and there are now five scholars receiving technical education abroad.

Demonstrations.

195. The department participated in most of the district and other exhibitions of the province, and took a prominent part in organizing the United Provinces Co-operative Exhibition at Fyzabad and the All-India Fine Arts Exhibition. The total number of demonstrations given by different schools rose from 32 to 42, and three gold and twenty silver medals were given for exhibits of local industries at district exhibitions.

Research.

196. The most important investigations conducted at the Technical Laboratory and Institute were concerned with the manufacture of strychnine and brucine from nux vomica, the manufacture of a cheap newspaper printing ink, the variable tannin content of the wood of the Kumaun oak, the recovery of sugar from molasses, the preparation of camphor from pinene, the pinene content of Indian turpentine, the bleaching of shellac, the loss of sugar in open pan boiling, the vegetable oil industry and the preparation of citral, genariol and menthol from turpentine. The number of industrial analyses conducted by the Industrial Chemist was 198.

The Government Central Wood Working Institute at Bareilly investigated nine species of timber to determine the value of kiln seasoning. In each case microscopic examination of match splints already in the market revealed the fact that the cellular structure of the majority of matches corresponds to the *populus euphratica* largely grown in the Punjab.

The Government Central Weaving Institute at Benares experimented on a winding machine, a six-shuttle revolving box, a four-shuttle drop box and a double slay box.

197. The Government on the advice of the Board of Loan Commissioners disbursed Rs. 87,000 in loans to industrial concerns. In addition to this, they advanced Rs. 13,000 for loans to small industrialists. The whole of the allotment of Rs. 25,000 for grants was utilized by the Board of Industries.

Financial
assistance.

The Stores Purchase Department continued its work of stimulating indigenous manufactures. About 80 per cent. of materials supplied to government departments are made in the country and the value of goods supplied through the department increased from Rs. 13.27 lakhs to Rs. 25.78 lakhs. New articles supplied by the department during the year were furniture, coal, iron safes and carbolastic and stone lime.

198. The number of inspections made under the Factory and Boiler Acts increased from 306 to 382 and eight prosecutions were instituted. Factory owners generally are taking more interest in the provision of proper sanitary arrangements, ventilation, lighting and water supply, and with the appointment of a larger inspecting staff a stricter conformity with the rules will be secured.

Security
and wel-
fare of
labour.

The problem of the provision of sanitary housing for factory operatives is becoming acute. An extension of the good work done by the British India Corporation of Cawnpore is hampered by the difficulty of obtaining sites. Building firms and co-operative housing societies are unable to take up the question owing to the fact that the wages of operatives are too low to permit an economic rent to be charged on new houses.

199. Excluding the figures of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Boiler's budget (Rs. 69,300) the cost of the department rose from Rs. 9,58,000 to Rs. 11,16,010.

Budget.

28. Trade.

200. Owing to the discontinuance of the report on foreign trade it is not possible to give more information regarding trade than has already been given in the sections describing industrial conditions and output.

29. Communications, buildings and power.

(See the report of the Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch, for the year ending March 31, 1926.)

Organiza- tion of the Public Works De- partment.

201. With effect from April 1, 1925, the Gonda and Dehra Dun divisions and all sub-divisions excepting those of Dehra Dun, Garhwal and Almora were abolished and their executive and ministerial staffs distributed among existing divisions. The Gonda division, however, was reopened as a temporary measure in August, 1926 owing to the extensive building programme for the Police Department. All local roads in the Naini Tal and Almora districts were handed over for maintenance to the district boards concerned. The intra-municipal roads at Allahabad on the other hand were again taken over from the municipal board by the department. With effect from July 1, 1925, all central works at Muktesar in the Naini Tal district were transferred to the control of the Chief Engineer, Delhi.

Railways.

202. The new station at Lucknow which was under construction during the year was opened by His Excellency Sir William Marris on December 13, 1926, and progress was made in the extension of the locomotive shops at Lucknow. The Phanda-Nautanwa branch of the Bengal and North-Western Railway was completed and the Aishbagh-Lucknow section of the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway was doubled. The construction of branch lines from Hardwar to Rikhikesh and from Agra to Bah was commenced.

Roads.

203. The department maintained 3,529 miles of metalled and 1,036 miles of unmetalled roads during the year, while local bodies maintained 4,093 miles of metalled and 26,703 miles of unmetalled roads. The large increase in heavy motor traffic had caused serious deterioration in over 300 miles of road in the immediate neighbourhood of large towns, and it was decided that nothing short of fundamental reconstruction would suffice. Accordingly Government accepted a programme of road reconstruction to cost Rs. 140 lakhs to be spread over five years and arranged to finance the scheme by a loan. Over ten miles of roads were reconstructed with various materials such as asphaltic concrete, premix

bitumenous macadam, bitumenous grout, surface painting and Portland cement concrete. The tar painting on *kankar* on the Mall, Lucknow, and the asphaltic painting on stone in Hazratganj done in 1924 have stood well. A sum of Rs. 2·71 lakhs was spent on plant and machinery for a stone quarry which was established in the Banda district for the supply of good properly graded stone.

The work of widening the Meerut-Moradabad-Barcilly and the Agra-Mainpuri-Bhogaon provincial roads was nearly completed and good progress was made in the improvement of the Khainna-Ranikhet section of the Barcilly-Ranikhet provincial road. Of new provincial roads work on the Kolukhet to Bhatta section of the Dehra Dun-Mussoorie road was nearly completed and progress was made in the raising and metalling of the Cawnpore-Etawah section of the Cawnpore-Etawah-Agra road and of the Gonda-Bahraich road in the Bahraich district. Progress was also made in the work of remetalling with stone in place of *kankar* many miles on the Grand Trunk road in the Cawnpore district. Of local roads progress was made on the metalling of the Pilibhit-Bisalpur road and of the Rajapur-Sahpur road in the Allahabad district. By the end of the year Rs. 39,295 had been spent on the raising and metalling of the Domariaganj road in the Easti district. It has since been handed over to the district board for completion.

The total sum spent on repairs to roads was Rs. 33·22 lakhs compared with Rs. 35·51 lakhs in the previous year. Excluding the amount spent on road reconstruction which was Rs. 16·30 lakhs the amount spent on new works was Rs. 5·04 lakhs.

204. Progress was made in the construction of the pontoon bridge over the Chambal on the Agra-Dholpur-Bombay road and in the widening and lengthening of the pontoon bridges at Rajghat, Allahabad and at Khandwa Nala in the Mirzapur district. **Bridges.**

The reinforced concrete bridge over the Gomti river in the Shahjahanpur district was completed at a total cost of Rs. 2·33 lakhs against an estimate of Rs. 2·37 lakhs. The completion of two bridges over dips in the Lucknow-Cawnpore road at a

cost of three lakhs will greatly facilitate communication between Cawnpore and Lucknow especially in the rainy season.

Arboriculture

205. About 1,843 miles of avenues were maintained during the year and 31 miles were newly planted. The income from arboriculture was Rs. 36,899 and the expenditure Rs. 78,244.

Navigation.

206. As in previous years 331 miles of the Ganges river and 94 miles of the Gogra river were kept open for navigation throughout the year.

Buildings.

207. The new factory for the Postal Workshops at Aligarh, which was designed by the Consulting Architect to Government, United Provinces, was completed at a total cost of Rs. 2.47 lakhs against an estimate of Rs. 2.62 lakhs.

The outlay on provincial buildings increased by Rs. 8.44 lakhs to Rs. 18.66 lakhs of which Rs. 2.15 lakhs were spent on educational buildings. A hostel with superintendent's quarters for the model school at Jhansi was completed at a cost of Rs. 29,840. Progress was made in the extension of the intermediate college at Moradabad and in the construction of a new model girls' school at Aligarh. The intermediate college at Lucknow for which the estimate is Rs. 1.22 lakhs and a laboratory and class rooms for the Government high school at Sultanpur were commenced during the year.

The new munsif's court at Ghaziabad and certain alterations in the district judge's court at Allahabad were completed at a cost of Rs. 76,632 and Rs. 25,771 respectively. A large building programme for police buildings financed by a loan of a crore of rupees has been started and thirty-one major police buildings were under construction of which six were completed at a cost of Rs. 2.10 lakhs. The construction of the new kotwali at Agra estimated to cost Rs. 5.62 lakhs was continued and the total expenditure up to the end of March, 1926 was Rs. 3.22 lakhs. A further expenditure of Rs. 82,194 on the construction of the new reserve police lines at Azamgarh brought the total expenditure up to Rs. 1.32 lakhs out of an estimated cost of Rs. 2.36 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 5.77 lakhs was spent on the construction of 23 other major police works which remained incomplete at the end of the year.

The north wing of the Agricultural college, Cawnpore, which provides for the mycological and entomological sections of the college was completed at a cost of Rs. 1.67 lakhs as was also the construction of a residence for the Deputy Director of Agriculture at Shahjahanpur at a cost of Rs. 33,654.

With the completion of the school buildings for the Government Carpentry school at Allahabad at a cost of Rs. 1.02 lakhs the most serious defect in the school was removed.

208. A sum of Rs. 1.98 lakhs was contributed by private individuals towards works of public utility. Progress was made on the construction of the *Sri Vishnu Bhagwan* temple at Gorakhpur and the construction of the *Gianhwin Sharif* hall at Nanpara in the Bahraich district was begun.

Private
works.

209. The Electric Inspector to Government prepared 155 estimates compared with 75 in the preceding year, while 25 electric installations were set up during the year compared with nine. There has been marked progress in electric supply and a steady demand from new consumers. The supply companies at Cawnpore, Allahabad, Lucknow and Agra are increasing their plant capacity to meet future expansion and there were six towns with electric schemes in operation. Two more will have them as soon as the plant is installed and another two have applied for licences. There was no fatal accident from electric shock during the year.

Power :
Electricity.

The delegation of administrative powers under section 55 of the Indian Electricity Act, 1910, to the Electric Inspector to Government has resulted in the decision by him of 137 disputes, while on ten occasions he gave technical advice on cases under trial before district magistrates.

30. Co-operative societies.

(See the report on *Co-operative Societies for the year ending June 30, 1926.*)

(See also table no. 163 of the *Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue, 1926.*)

210. The most important event of the year was the appointment of the Co-operative Committee, which sat from September,

Reforms.

1925 to February, 1926, to examine the position of the co-operative movement in this province. The conclusions reached were that the main factors retarding the expansion of the movement were faulty organization, defective supervision, insufficient propaganda and state aid, and the inadequacy of the departmental staff. The recommendations made, most of which have been accepted by Government, included proposals to increase the staff, to transfer the duty of organizing and supervising primary societies from the central banks to a provincial committee, to intensify propaganda and to secure further help from Government. The proposed increase in the staff of the department to which Government have agreed will involve the appointment of one more deputy registrar, eight assistant registrars, one personal assistant to the registrar, and 25 inspectors. Government propose to create some of the new appointments in April, 1927. They have already increased by nineteen the number of auditors and have provided Rs. 7,000 for extending the library and for propaganda.

General progress

211. The total number of societies rose from 6,000 to 6,238 of which 5,899 were agricultural societies. The total membership increased by 3,449 and the working capital by Rs 8 lakhs. The total capital involved in the movement increased by Rs. 4.3 lakhs to Rs. 1.17 crores of which the percentage owned by the movement in shares and reserve funds was 54.2 compared with 52.2 in the previous year.

The percentage of arrears to outstanding loans fell slightly, but the amount of arrears due to agricultural credit societies from their members rose from Rs. 21.35 lakhs to Rs. 22.06 lakhs in spite of the complaint that central banks are prone to concentrate on the realization of their dues to the detriment of their duties of education and supervision.

Excluding the figures for societies whose proceedings were closed the total collections from liquidated societies fell from Rs. 2.65 lakhs to Rs. 2.27 lakhs most of which was recovered by collectors as arrears of land revenue. The total amount of arrears due from members of liquidated societies decreased from Rs. 16.73 lakhs to Rs. 15.54 lakhs of which nearly ten lakhs

are due from the districts of Bulandshahr, Budaun, Moradabad and Hardoi. The number of societies liquidated during the year was 151 of which 141 were agricultural.

212. The number of district banks and other central societies at the beginning of the year was 76. One central society was amalgamated with the district bank of Fyzabad, and the Hindustan Co-operative Store had to be dissolved. The two surviving guaranteeing unions worked satisfactorily, but an increase in the number of such unions depends upon a general improvement in the condition of primary societies.

Central
societies.

The working capital of central societies increased by Rs. 1·7 lakhs to Rs. 86·8 lakhs. Of the increase Rs. 1·1 lakhs was an increase in share capital. Advances decreased by Rs. 4·12 lakhs to Rs. 42·19 lakhs and repayments by Rs. 2·25 lakhs to Rs. 40·47 lakhs, owing to a poor season. For the same reason suspensions amounting to Rs. 3·19 lakhs were given to societies. The book profits including the amount brought forward from the previous year increased by Rs. 42,379 to Rs. 3·51 lakhs. The actual increase in profits on the year's working, however, was only Rs. 14,286. These figures do not include the accounts of the weavers' central bank at Sandila the losses of which were reported last year.

Establishment charges again increased by Rs. 21,755 to Rs. 2·58 lakhs representing 2·97 per cent. of the total working capital. There was a reduction of Rs. 1·29 lakhs in the amount of idle balances on June 30, 1926.

The two agricultural supply societies at Roorkee and Hardoi paid dividends of ten per cent.

213. The number of societies increased from 5,678 to 5,899 and the total membership from 140,476 to 144,384. On account of the liberal advances made in the previous year advances to members decreased by Rs. 2·9 lakhs. Collections fell by Rs. 1·6 lakhs but the percentage of overdues to the total amount outstanding fell by one per cent. to 31·4 per cent. Book profits rose by Rs. 0·5 lakh and the reserve fund was augmented by Rs. 1·2 lakhs.

Agricultural
societies.

The share money of members has increased by Rs. 1·5 lakhs to Rs. 20 lakhs but their deposits still amount to only Rs. 0·8 lakh. Over 1,500 societies have completed the ten years that must elapse before profits can be distributed, and of these more than 600 declared dividends ranging from $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. to 10 per cent. About 300 societies have reduced their rate of interest from 15 per cent. to rates varying from $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. to $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. As a result of the co-operative movement the outside indebtedness of members has been reduced by Rs. 3·6 lakhs and redemptions of mortgaged property and purchases of new land have been made to the value of Rs. 93,000.

Non-agricultural societies

214. The number again increased from 244 to 263, of which over one hundred are industrial societies. Most of the latter are weavers' societies. The membership increased by 250 and the working capital by Rs. 6 lakhs. The percentage of overdues to the total outstandings fell from 11 to 8·6 per cent.

Non-credit societies

215. Three agricultural societies were cancelled and the two dairy societies at Benares and Lucknow are moribund. Steps have been taken to form some poultry societies in the Etah district. Three societies for consolidation of agricultural holdings have been registered in Saharanpur and others are promised.

There were 22 non-agricultural non-credit societies, nine having been registered and four cancelled during the year. The Oel brass workers society for production and sale in the Kheri district promises well. The number of durrie makers' societies at Agra increased from two to six. Of eleven general stores societies only two are working satisfactorily. The durrie makers' societies have recently received an order for durries worth Rs. 50,000. The housing society at Bulandshahr continued to do well; that at Cawnpore went into voluntary liquidation.

Cost of supervision and working

216. The cost to banks and societies again increased from Rs. 3·96 lakhs to Rs. 4·15 lakhs, and the cost to Government including Rs. 30,503 spent on the Oakden Committee rose from Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 2·23 lakhs. These figures do not include audit charges amounting to Rs. 23,289 which are met mainly from audit fees levied on banks and societies.

CHAPTER V.--PUBLIC REVENUE AND FINANCE.

31. Central revenues.

217. The provincial contribution to the revenues of the Central Government which was reduced from Rs. 240 lakhs to Rs. 1,83,83, in the year '1925-26 was further reduced to Rs. 1,50,85, in 1926-27. Provincial contribution.

218. There was but little improvement on the previous year in business conditions and the number of assesseees to income-tax and super-tax fell from 25,302 to 25,125. Increased vigilance on the part of the income-tax staff, however, resulted in a small increase from Rs. 59·87 lakhs to Rs. 60·96 lakhs under income-tax and from Rs. 16·72 lakhs to Rs. 17·36 lakhs under super-tax. Income tax

Salaries paid by Government yielded Rs. 10·61 lakhs—an increase of Rs. 1·12 lakhs; and business gave Rs. 44·00 lakhs against Rs. 41·54 lakhs in 1924-25. While Cawnpore again contributed one half of the total amount of super-tax, its share of income tax which was one half in 1921-22 fell to less than a quarter.

32. Provincial revenues.

(See the review of Provincial accounts by the Director of Audit for the year 1925-26.)

(Values are expressed in terms of lakhs of rupees)

219. Excluding debt heads and withdrawals from the balance of the Famine insurance fund (Rs. 23 10) the total revenue amounted to Rs. 12,48 00 compared with Rs. 12,18 89 in 1924-25. There were increases under Land revenue (Rs. 19·16), Excise (Rs. 2·22), Stamps (Rs. 2·06), Registration (Rs. 1·21), Irrigation (Rs. 19·24), Administration of justice (Rs. 0 51), Jails (Rs. 2·25), Education (Rs. 0·21), Public health (Rs. 0·47) and Miscellaneous (Rs. 0·65). Decreases occurred under Forests (Rs. 4·96), Interest (Rs. 5·39), Agriculture (Rs. 0 78), Industries (Rs. 0·83), Miscellaneous departments (Rs. 0 82), Civil works (Rs. 2·46) and Receipts in aid of superannuation (Rs. 2·67). The net improvement was thus Rs. 29 lakhs. Comparison with the previous year.

The increase under Land revenue was due to the recovery from the floods of 1924. The income from Stamps and Registration was greater probably because of the holding up of commercial transactions towards the end of 1924-25 in the hope that the United Provinces Stamp Act would not be passed. The increase under Irrigation was due partly to a greater demand for water for the spring crop following a rainless winter, and partly to the repair of certain works which the floods of 1924 had put out of action.

The total expenditure excluding Debt heads rose from Rs. 12,82.49 to Rs. 13,01.42—an increase of Rs. 18.93. But for the remission of Rs. 53.17 of the provincial contribution to central revenues the increase would have been Rs. 75.10 and what was a surplus of Rs. 10, would have been a deficit of Rs. 46.

Increases in expenditure occurred under Land revenue (Rs. 2.32) owing to the expansion of record operations, and Excise (Rs. 8.90) owing to a change in the procedure of charging for the price of excise opium by the Central Government. The latter increase was unreal, being balanced by a corresponding addition under Excise receipts. Increasing liabilities on account of interest caused an increase of Rs. 6.38 under Interest on irrigation works while interest on ordinary debt also rose by Rs. 4.98 owing to the increasing debts. Irrigation works financed by the Famine insurance fund and ordinary revenue cost Rs. 2.44 more than in the previous year and the opening of the Chief Court of Oudh largely accounted for an increase of Rs. 1.87 under Administration of justice. The dearth of grain resulted in a rise of Rs. 4.96 under Jails. Transfers of expenditure formerly debited to capital in accordance with a ruling of the Secretary of State, and natural expansion caused increases of Rs. 13.73 and Rs. 28.26 under Education and Public health respectively. Increased activities resulted in increased expenditure of Rs. 3.18 and Rs. 1.17 under Agriculture and Industries; and larger grants-in-aid were partly responsible for a rise of Rs. 4.02 under Medical. Other increases occurred under Registration (Rs. 0.19), General administration (Rs. 0.80), Police (Rs. 0.73), Superannuation allowances and pensions (Rs. 2.62), Stationery and

printing (Rs. 0·62), Miscellaneous (Rs. 0·43) and other revenue expenditure financed from ordinary revenue (Rs. 1·32).

Decreases in expenditure occurred under Stamps (Rs. 0·67), Appropriation for reduction of debt (Rs. 1·67), Miscellaneous departments (Rs. 0·54, owing to the figure of 1924-25 including non-recurring charges on account of the British Empire Exhibition), Civil works (Rs. 10·72), Famine relief (Rs. 5·89), and Expenditure in England (Rs. 3·10).

220. The original budget provided for a revenue excluding debt heads of Rs. 12,82·42 and an expenditure from revenue of Rs. 12,36,04,. Actual receipts, however, fell short of the estimate by Rs. 27,00,. Receipts under Excise were over-estimated by Rs. 18·33 in the expectation of a larger revenue under the sealed-bottle system. The recovery from the floods of 1924 was not so rapid as was expected at the time of framing the budget and as a result land revenue yielded Rs. 4·87 less than the estimate. Receipts from Civil works and receipts in aid of superannuation fell short of the estimate by Rs. 1·48 and Rs. 2·51 and a sum of Rs. 5·55 less than was estimated was transferred from the Famine insurance fund. There was, however, an excess over the estimate of Rs. 11·85 under Stamps for which the probable reason has already been indicated. Higher realizations under Interest on loans to local bodies and Miscellaneous items yielded Rs. 1·64 and Rs. 2·42 more than the estimate.

The budget
of 1925-26
compared
with actual
receipts and
expenditure.

On the expenditure side an original grant of Rs. 12,32·57 was supplemented by Rs. 25·71 making a total of Rs. 12,58·28. The total expenditure from revenue amounted to Rs. 13,01·41. The excess of Rs. 43·13, however, is mainly due to the transfer from capital to revenue of Rs. 48·06 representing grants-in-aid to local bodies and excluding these adjustments there was a saving of Rs. 4·93.

The expenditure on Land revenue and General administration was Rs. 3·65 and Rs. 1·37 less than was estimated. Quicker progress of works and the debit of grants-in-aid provided for in the capital section accounted for an increase of Rs. 11·99 under Civil works. The adjustment of interest on loans obtained in

1925-26 in the accounts of the year caused an increase of Rs. 5.58 under Interest on debt; and under Education and Public health excesses of Rs. 11.74 and Rs. 29.34 were mainly due to the adjustment of grants in-aid. Expenditure also fell short of the estimate under Jails (Rs. 1.67), Industries (Rs. 0.91), Stamps (Rs. 0.74) and Miscellaneous (Rs. 9.85). The last sum represents the provision for revision of pay recommended by the Lee Commission. In respect of sterling overseas pay it was subsequently transferred to the High Commissioner's budget; in respect of loss by exchange on the sterling overseas pay, passage pay and other concessions it was subsequently transferred to the departmental grants.

Capital and
debt heads.

221. A further loan of Rs. 1,99.53 was taken during the year of which Rs. 1,11.78 were for capital productive expenditure including Rs. 8.00 representing loans to improvement trusts, and Rs. 87.75 for unproductive capital outlay. Of this sum Rs. 1,09.39 were spent on productive and Rs. 74.30 on unproductive works. Including the balance in hand at the beginning of the year, there was a closing balance of Rs. 47.29 out of the loans taken from the Central Government. Of the amount spent on productive works the Sarda canals absorbed Rs. 1,01.89 and loans to the Lucknow municipality and the Improvement Trusts of Lucknow, Cawnpore and Allahabad, Rs. 7.50. The main items of expenditure on unproductive works were Rs. 11.09 on police buildings and Rs. 28.04 on reconstruction of roads. The balance of the United Provinces Development loans increased from Rs. 1,65.18 to Rs. 1,85.98 on account of the transfer from capital to revenue of grants-in-aid met from loan funds in previous years.

The budget
of 1926-27.

222. The budget of 1926-27 provided for revenue receipts amounting to Rs. 12,89.35 and expenditure from revenue of Rs. 12,51.57. The surplus thus provided for would have reduced the revenue deficit to Rs. 1.76. Supplementary demands voted in August, however, will leave the revenue deficit at Rs. 2,08.58 to reduce which the Government are taking steps to readjust certain amounts between revenue and capital.

The position
at the end
of 1925-26.

223. The year's working was expected to close with a revenue surplus of Rs. 61.46 and a deficit under capital and debt of

Rs. 57 40. There was actually a revenue deficit of Rs. 30 75 and a surplus under capital and debt of Rs 8 11. The net result was that in place of a surplus of Rs. 4 07 there was a deficit of Rs. 22 64 and the closing balance was reduced from Rs. 75 13 to Rs. 52 49, while the progressive revenue deficit increased from Rs. 1,83 24 to Rs. 2,13 99. But for the remission of Rs. 56 17 of the provincial contribution the deficit would have increased to Rs. 2,70 00 which gives an annual average deficit of Rs. 54 lakhs since the introduction of the reforms.

The further remission of Rs. 33 lakhs granted for the year 1926-27 will alleviate the position, but even so there will be less than Rs. 40 lakhs of free money to meet new items of expenditure in the transferred departments and increased interest charges on account of loans taken for productive and unproductive works. Moreover, the Famine insurance fund has been considerably depleted. Although the position is not one for immediate anxiety, especially as in eight years the Government will be freed from the payment of Rs 25 lakhs on account of the repayment of loans, the smallness of the closing balance is far from satisfactory and in default of new sources of revenue or of further remissions from the provincial contribution the future development of the province will be considerably handicapped.

33 Stamps.

(See the report on Stamp revenue for the triennium ending March 31, 1926.)

(See also table 86 of the Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue, 1926.)

224. The gross receipts under the Stamp and Court-Fees Acts increased from Rs. 176 29 lakhs to Rs. 178 25 lakhs of which the sale of judicial stamps yielded Rs. 140 23 lakhs. The increase was confined to the sale of court-fee and copy stamps, while with the abolition of the United Provinces Stamp Amendment Act with effect from May 1, 1925, the income from non-judicial stamps decreased by Rs. 1 67 lakhs. There was an increase of nearly one lakh in the income from copy stamps in spite of the restoration of the exemption from court-fees of

Receipts
and charges.

copies required for private use. The increase of over two lakhs in the revenue from court-fee stamps is due to the large increase in litigation which has been described in chapter III of this report, and is further reflected in the steady rise in the income from stamps for legal practitioners' licences from Rs. 75,404 in 1923-24 to Rs. 83,444 in 1924-25 and in 1925-26 to Rs. 96,495. Charges again decreased from Rs. 4.34 lakhs to Rs. 4.17 lakhs.

Sale of
stamps.

225. As a result of the objection made by the Board of Revenue to the excessive number of stamp vendors depending for their living on their income from discount on stamps the number of vendors fell from 3,015 to 2,980. In 1923-24 there were 3,326. The amount paid in discount increased from Rs. 2.19 lakhs to Rs. 2.21 lakhs and the annual average income was Rs. 74 compared with Rs. 59 in 1922-23. This increase was the natural consequence of the increased revenue from stamps.

Infringe-
ment of
stamp law.

226. The number of cases in which duty and penalty were levied on unstamped or insufficiently stamped documents rose from 4,266 to 4,468, and the amount of duty and penalty levied from Rs. 57,442 to Rs. 66,995. There were 965 prosecutions compared with 967 in 1924-25 and 840 in 1923-24. In spite of this proof of increased vigilance on the part of the authorities there is still much evasion of stamp duty.

34. Excise.

(See the report on Excise administration for the year ending March 31, 1926.)

(See also tables 83 to 85 of the Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue, 1926.)

Administra-
tive reforms.

227. Following the recommendations of the Excise Conference of 1924-25 a provincial Excise Board of fourteen members has been created. A number of other reforms which are mentioned below under their appropriate headings were also introduced in the light of the recommendations of the Excise Conference.

228. The consumption of country liquor fell substantially for the fifth year in succession largely as a result of the restrictive excise policy of Government. Issues of hemp drugs remained stationary and the high price of opium compelled those who required it to be content with smaller quantities. The contribution to real excise revenue per head of population was four annas and six pies which is lower than in any other province barring the North-West Frontier Province.

229. Except for the re-settlement of shops individually under the out-still system in a remote tahsil of the Kheri district there was no change in system or in the rates of duty or scale of licence fees. There was a further decrease in the number of shops in both the distillery and out-still areas. In the former there were 2,159 against 2,187 in 1924-25: in the latter 123 against 135. The prohibitive scale of duties and the large reduction in the number of shops in the rural area has resulted in a further fall in consumption to 587,056 gallons compared with 633,807 gallons in the previous year and 1,573,621 gallons in 1919-20. While the revenue has fallen from Rs. 106.08 lakhs to Rs. 51.33 lakhs in the six years, the incidence per gallon of duty and fees has risen from Rs. 6.74 to Rs. 8.74. There can be no more convincing proof of Government's earnest desire to promote the cause of temperance than the surrender of over fifty lakhs of recurring revenue. The sale of country spirit in sealed bottles for consumption "off" the premises was introduced during the year in the district of Bulandshahr and in the towns of Allahabad, Lucknow, Cawnpore, Agra, Meerut, Bareilly, Moradabad, Saharanpur, Shahjahanpur and Fyzabad. It has since been introduced in Gorakhpur and Jhansi. The prescribed strength of spirit remained 35° under proof, with a number of shops in Bundelkhand and in large cities selling spirit of 50° under proof. The latter is not popular in the cities. In the malarious Tarai a few shops sold spirit of 25° under proof.

Country
spirit.

The eight distilleries were able to fulfil their contracts. The output of locally-made sophisticated, rectified and denatured spirit made little progress owing to the superior skill and

enterprise of distillers in Java, Germany and France aided by favourable rates of exchange.

Foreign
liquor.

230. There was one more licence for the sale of potable liquor while licences for the sale of denatured spirit increased by 51 owing to the competition between manufacturers. From April 1, 1926, the rate of surcharge fees on foreign liquor licences was slightly enhanced and a fixed fee of Rs. 25 was introduced for the sale of denatured spirit. The revenue from licence fees fell from Rs. 1·10 lakhs to Rs. 1·04 lakhs. The duty on foreign spirit manufactured locally and issued to the United Provinces fell from Rs. 4·97 lakhs to Rs. 4·70 lakhs indicating that cheap liquor from Java, Germany and France continues to gain ground at the expense of locally-made foreign liquor. New rules were framed regulating the import of foreign liquor manufactured in other provinces.

Tari.

231. The high price of country spirit has caused an increase in the use of *tari* in the eastern districts. Proposals have been made for an extension of the tree-tax system which is a safeguard against arrears and provides independence and a competence for the petty vendor. The number of shops was reduced from 1,863 to 1,750. The revenue from *tari* was Rs. 5·10 lakhs of which Rs. 1·50 lakhs came from the Gorakhpur district.

Hemp
drugs.

232. The contract supply and surcharge licence-fee systems yielded a better revenue on a reduced consumption than the farming system. The quality of the new supply of *charas* has improved. The number of shops fell from 2,075 to 2,069 giving an average of one shop to 51 square miles. As a result of excise policy there has been a rise of 40 per cent. in the price of drugs and a fall of 50 per cent. in their consumption. Duty on hemp drugs fell from Rs. 18·97 lakhs to Rs. 18·55 lakhs but licence fees rose from Rs. 16·99 lakhs to Rs. 17·06 lakhs and the total revenue was thus Rs. 35·61 lakhs compared with Rs. 35·96 lakhs in the previous year.

Opium.

233. The United Provinces Opium Smoking Act (II of 1925) came into force in May, 1925. The retail price of opium remained Rs. 120 per seer and the issues of opium fell for the

eighth year in succession by 5·6 per cent. With the restoration of some rural shops the number of shops rose from 871 to 882. There is reason to believe that the opium smoker as a type is disappearing. The total revenue rose from Rs. 17·15 lakhs to Rs. 23·02 lakhs.

234. The number of licences for the sale of morphia drugs rose from 301 to 312 and the quantity of morphia sold from 10 lb. 16 oz. to 17 lb. 4 oz. Cocaine licences were reduced from 191 to 188 but the quantity of cocaine sold rose from 5 lb. 10 oz. to 6 lb. 11 oz. By an amendment of the cocaine rules practitioners have been limited in the extent to which they may prescribe or use cocaine within the calendar year. No instances of abuse of the morphia and cocaine rules by privileged persons came to notice.

Dangerous
drugs.

235. With the abolition of the special staff for dealing with illicit distillation the number of cases relating to unlawful manufacture, import and possession of country liquor fell from 1,735 to 1,382 and the total number of prosecutions from 2,622 to 2,342. There was a rise in the number of prosecutions for offences relating to hemp drugs and cocaine which were 246 and 312 against 145 and 264 respectively. While there was a decrease of 406 in cases of illicit distillation in the districts where the special staff had worked in the previous year the number of such offences in other districts increased giving a total of 733 against 877 in the previous year. Proposals for special measures to deal with *charas* smuggling are under the consideration of Government. There is evidence to show that the cocaine habit has spread to the lower classes. The smuggling of opium especially of Malwa opium does not show any substantial abatement although both the number of prosecutions and the amount of opium seized decreased. There were in all 355 prosecutions under the Opium Act and 44 under the new Opium Smoking Act which is of great assistance in putting down *chandu* and *madak* dens. Owing to the increased activity of the police at Allahabad the number of prosecutions for drunkenness increased from 808 to 933.

Excise
crime.

236. The number of elected municipal representatives on licensing boards was increased from two to five bringing the

Local
bodies.

total membership to ten of whom eight are elected. The chairmen of three licensing boards have recently been nominated by Government as members of the new Excise Board. Licensing boards obtained the closure of ten more shops and the opening of four shops. Advisory committees recommended the closure of 136 shops and the opening of 84. Of these 130 shops were closed and 83 opened.

Staff

237. The post of Assistant Excise Commissioner, Allahabad charge, remained in abeyance; but its restoration which is desired by the districts concerned is being considered. A time-scale of pay was introduced for excise inspectors and the pay of excise peons was improved. Of twenty posts of inspector and 24 of peon reduced in previous years on grounds of economy, ten posts of inspector and 21 of peon were restored.

**Receipts
and expen-
diture.**

238. The total real receipts rose from Rs. 124.83 lakhs to Rs. 126.46 lakhs but net revenue fell from Rs. 117.20 lakhs to Rs. 111.37 lakhs. The rise in real receipts is due to a change of system by which opium purchased from the factory at Ghazipur is paid for at the time of purchase and not as formerly when issued from district treasuries. There was thus a real fall under every head except that of duty on foreign liquor manufactured in the province. Country liquor brought in Rs. 53.38 lakhs; opium Rs. 23.02 lakhs; hemp drugs Rs. 35.62 lakhs; foreign liquor manufactured in the province Rs. 7.29 lakhs; foreign liquor Rs. 1.04 lakhs; and *tari* Rs. 5.10 lakhs.

The total expenditure excluding the cost of excise opium and the amount paid in compensation rose from Rs. 5.94 lakhs to Rs. 6.61 lakhs, owing to increments in the pay of inspectors under the time-scale, to better rewards, and to extensions at bonded warehouses made necessary by the introduction of the sealed-bottle system. The cost of administration rose from 4.8 to 5.2 per cent. of the net revenue.

Conclusion.

239. The pressure of Government's restrictive excise policy continues and the results are apparent in the notable decrease in the consumption of country liquor and of drugs during the last five years. For the continued success of this policy it is more than ever necessary to have a fully trained, efficient and honest staff with adequate prospects.

CHAPTER VI.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

35. Vital statistics.

(See the report of the Director of Public Health for the year ending December 31, 1925)

(See also tables 180 to 187 of the Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue, 1926.)

240. While there was a decline in the birth rate in 1925 **General.** there was also a decline in the death-rate and the year was on the whole a healthy one. Mortality from plague and cholera was considerably less than in the previous year.

241. The birth-rate fell by 1·99.* The total number of **Births.** births was 1,485,275 of which 52·89 per cent. were males. The highest birth-rate was in September and the lowest in May. Bijnor and Rae Bareilly again reported the highest and lowest rates respectively.

242. There were 1,124,248 deaths registered during the year **Deaths.** of which 603,493 were males. The death-rate fell from 28·29 to 24·78. Gonda again had the lowest death-rate (14·70) while Bulandshahr had the highest (45·92). In municipalities and notified areas Khurja and Sikandrabad, both in the Bulandshahr district, had the highest rates, (84·76) and (68·64). This was due to plague and cholera. High rates were again reported from Jalesar (64·11) and Kosi (66·49). At the latter place the chief factor was plague.

243. Infantile mortality fell by 16·49 to 175·51. The highest **Infantile mortality.** rate was again at Farrukhabad with 234·67 while Naini Tal came second with 229·10. In municipalities and notified areas the death-rate was 253·71 and 218·96 compared with 274·58 and 242·02 in the previous year. Cawnpore as usual had the highest rate (420·23), while Sikandrabad, Bulandshahr and Jalesar recorded 364·63, 340·05 and 335·06 respectively. Among notified areas the Chunar settlement in Mirzapur recorded a rate of

* Rates for births and deaths are per thousand of population.

1250-00. Mortality among infants was highest in August and lowest in February.

Verifica-
tion of
statistics

244. The numbers of entries of births and deaths tested by the vaccination staff, district officers of health, local authorities and assistant directors of public health were 1,063,983, 54,587, 242,485, and 10,865, making a total of 1,371,920.

Diseases:
Fever.

245. The death-rate from fever fell from 20.89 to 19.30, the total number of deaths being 875,594. Although the largest number of deaths occurred in May, which is not a malarious month, 765,799 were attributed to malaria. The number of deaths due to measles was 19,140, to enteric fever 10,313, to relapsing fever 339, to kala-azar 95, and to other fevers 79,908.

Cholera.

246. There were 7,653 deaths from cholera against 67,000 in 1924. The districts which suffered most were Bulandshahr, Aligarh, Sultanpur, Basti and Bahraich. In the twenty districts under the cholera scheme there were 3,680 deaths while in the 28 not under the scheme which are not so liable to cholera there were 3,973.

Small-pox.

247. Deaths from small-pox rose from 2,724 to 9,373. The highest mortality was in May and the lowest in October and the highest figures were recorded in Aligarh district. While there is no regular small-pox hospital, there are six infectious diseases hospitals in the province.

Plague.

248. Mortality from plague fell from 56,210 to 49,091. The highest figures are for Bulandshahr followed by Muttra and Meerut. The districts of Dehra Dun, Mainpuri, Pilibhit, Jhansi, Naini Tal, Almora, Partabgarh and Garhwal were free from plague.

Dysentery
and
diarrhoea.

249. The number of deaths registered as due to dysentery and diarrhoea fell from 11,989 to 11,335, the highest figures being recorded in May and the lowest in February. Garhwal again had the highest mortality (4.48), while in Almora, Dehra Dun and Benares the death-rates were 1.37, 0.93 and 0.75 respectively.

Respira-
tory
diseases.

250. The number of deaths recorded as due to respiratory diseases was 26,177. The highest mortality was in April and the lowest in June. The districts of Hamirpur, Lucknow, Dehra Dun and Agra again had the highest death-rates. The figures,

however, are not a true indication of the prevalence of these diseases for there is no doubt that a large number of deaths from pneumonir and tuberculosis are returned as deaths from fever.

251. Deaths due to injuries numbered 21,900 of which 1,941 were suicides, 14,806 were due to accidents and wounds, 4,822 were caused by snakes and wild animals and 331 were due to rabies.

Deaths from
injuries.

36. Medical services.

(See the Triennial Report on Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries for the period ending December 31, 1926.)

(See also tables 189 to 191 of the Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue 1926)

252. Twenty-seven dispensaries were transferred to local bodies, nine to the Public Health Department and three to private bodies, while eight were closed. The opening of nine new dispensaries, however, brought the total number of hospitals and dispensaries to 557 compared with 595 in the previous year. Of the eight dispensaries which were closed four were state dispensaries, two maintained by local funds and two were private non-aided dispensaries.

Number of
hospitals
and dis-
pensaries.

253. The number of in-patients treated rose from 87,652 to 88,312, while that of out-patients fell from 5,379,189 to 5,293,774. There were 238,600 surgical operations performed compared with 237,050 in the previous year. The accommodation at the King Edward Sanatorium at Bhowali was enlarged to provide 80 beds. One hundred and thirty-seven patients were admitted during the year, and of the total admissions in the last three years one quarter have been discharged after definite improvement.

Extent of
medical
relief.

254. A scheme for the formation of a State Medical Faculty to take the place of the State Board of Medical Examinations came into effect in November, 1926. The Faculty has for one of its immediate objects the raising of the standard of education at the Agra Medical school. There were 223 students at the King George's Medical college of the Lucknow University at the end of the year against 239 at the beginning. One hundred

Medical
education.

and three candidates passed the M. B. B. S., Final examination. At Agra 83 students passed the L. M. P. examination. Although the stopping of recruitment for the Provincial Subordinate Medical service has taken away the prospect of government employment for pupils of the Agra Medical school, there was no lack of candidates for admission to that school. The Women's Medical school at Agra is entirely staffed by women doctors and of their students sixteen were successful in the L. M. P. examination. The general education of female students is lower than that of males.

Maternity
and child
welfare.

255. The number of associations carrying on the work of the United Provinces Branch of the All-India Lady Chelmsford League continued to grow. The objects of the League which was formed in 1922 are the improvement of indigenous *dais*, the training of midwives, the establishment of welfare centres, and the holding of baby weeks. Many districts are now working the scheme outlined by the committee of the League while several others have their own schemes. The public generally is sensible of the value of any work which will tend to reduce the high rate of mortality among women and children.

General.

256. The total income from hospitals and dispensaries rose from Rs. 26.11 lakhs to Rs. 29.46 lakhs. Expenditure rose slightly from Rs. 27.52 lakhs to Rs. 27.74 lakhs.

The cadre of civil surgeons of the Indian Medical service fell to 25 and two posts were vacant. The number of officers of the Provincial Subordinate Medical service fell further from 481 to 431 on account of the transfer of 39 travelling dispensaries to the control of other bodies and the closure of eight hospitals and dispensaries. To meet the needs of the rural population a scheme was started to encourage qualified doctors by means of a subsidy to settle down as private practitioners in rural areas remote from dispensaries. Twenty practitioners took advantage of this scheme in 1925. Government also approved of a scheme for granting subsidies to local boards for opening and maintaining permanent dispensaries in places where none existed previously. This scheme is meeting with success. Two other schemes received sanction and will soon be in operation. They are the

establishment of a pathological laboratory worked by the Lucknow University, and of tuberculosis dispensaries in the plains for the treatment of the disease in its early stage. In addition to the above schemes ten whole-time school medical officers were appointed to take the place of dispensary doctors who did not prove satisfactory as school medical officers.

37. Public health services.

(See the reports of the Director of Public Health for the year ending December 31, 1925, and of the Superintending Engineer, Public Health Department, for the year ending March 31, 1926.)

257. The Board of Public Health made grants amounting to Rs. 4.71 lakhs during the year. The chief items were Rs. 1.50 lakhs for road construction at Lucknow, Rs. 50,000 for the water works scheme at Hardwar, Rs. 30,000 towards the hydro-electric scheme at Naini Tal, Rs. 42,456 for improvements in pilgrim centres and Rs. 85,376 to commissioners for petty sanitary improvements in town areas and villages. In addition to this loans amounting to Rs. 7.97 lakhs were sanctioned.

Board of
Public
health.

Projects for water supply and drainage and sewerage works amounting to Rs. 81 lakhs were approved as were also the Hardwar electric scheme for Rs. 1.84 lakhs and the Benares infectious diseases hospital scheme for Rs. 82,927. A reorganization scheme of over Rs. 34 lakhs was approved by the Board for the Allahabad water-works which were in a very unsatisfactory condition.

258. Assistant directors of public health attended the important fairs in the province all of which passed off without any serious outbreak of disease. Advantage was taken of the gatherings to give lantern lectures on health matters. The malaria branch was established on a permanent footing from March 1, 1925. Nearly all district and municipal medical officers of health have now been trained in anti-malarial measures. The activities of the branch were concentrated on the Sarda canal where the health of labourers was remarkably good. Anti-malarial surveys were made at Hardwar, Kosi, Lucknow, Moradabad and Bareilly. A special staff was put on plague duty and plague research work was started in April, 1925. During the year 84,337

Work of
staff.

inoculations were performed. The Provincial Hygiene Publicity Bureau was made a permanent branch in March, 1925 and with the aid of magic lanterns did useful publicity work. The Public Analyst made analyses of 483 samples of which 336 were found genuine.

District
health
scheme.

259. The district health scheme under which an officer with special training in public health is employed by the district board was extended to several more districts making a total of sixteen districts in which the scheme was in force.

Superin-
tending
Engineer,
Public
Health De-
partment.

260. A sum of Rs 5.36 lakhs was spent on the construction of original works and Rs. 13.50 lakhs on the maintenance and repairs of open water-works. The cost of the department fell from Rs. 3.69 lakhs to Rs. 3.36 lakhs. The special attention of municipal boards was drawn to the problems of the prevention of wastage and the improvement of the collection of water-tax.

The chief constructive works of the year included ten tube wells, the completion of the water supply scheme at Fyzabad, the carrying out of improvements in the water supply systems of Allahabad, Benares, Jhansi, Dehra Dun and Mussoorie, and the improvement of flushing schemes at Moradabad and Farrukhabad. A temporary water supply was again successfully established at the Allahabad *Magh mela*. Progress was made in the Lucknow and Muttra sewage disposal schemes and in the drainage works at Kaimganj and Kanauj.

Health
training
and educa-
tion.

261. There was no candidate for examination for the Diploma of Public Health. Eight candidates were admitted to the classes for this distinction. For the qualification of Licentiate of Public Health (Part II) there were eleven candidates of whom ten were successful. Twenty-six candidates passed the Apprentice Sanitary Inspectors' examination, 24 the Sanitary Inspectors' examination and three the Chief Sanitary Inspectors' examination. Of 34 candidates in the examination for Part I of the M. B., B. S., in Public Health 28 were successful.

Civil sani-
tary works.

262. The greater part of the sewage disposal scheme at Muttra was completed and an extension was made to the sullage farm at Allahabad. The improvement trusts at Lucknow and

Allahabad were engaged in the construction of roads and surface drains.

Apart from these the chief sanitary works in the province are the water supply schemes in the larger towns. The works at Lucknow flushed 204 miles of drain daily those at Cawnpore 126, at Benares 97 and at Agra 77.

The consumption of water per head was again high at Benares (31 gallons). Cawnpore followed with 30.9 gallons and then came Agra (24.6), Muttra (22.5), Mussoorie (22.2), Allahabad (22) and Lucknow (19.3). A total of Rs. 3.89 lakhs was spent on extensions and improvements to water-works during the year, making the total sum invested in the water-works of thirteen towns Rs. 232 lakhs. Eight of the schemes worked at a loss which is attributed to wastage of water and to the unsatisfactory state of accounts and collections.

38. Vaccination.

(See the Triennial Report on Vaccination for the period ending March 31, 1926.)

263. The number of persons vaccinated rose from 1,296,756 to 1,465,862. The percentage of successful primary vaccinations fell from 95.21 to 94.01, but the number of persons successfully vaccinated per thousand of population rose from 26.68 to 28.60.

Number of
vaccina-
tions

264. Assistant directors of public health and district superintendents of vaccination inspected 194,479 cases compared with 154,799 in the previous year, while the number of operations inspected by other inspectors rose from 580,423 to 623,525.

Inspection
of vaccina-
tions

265. The Provincial Bovine Lymph Dépôt at Patwa Dangar in the Naini Tal district issued lymph sufficient to vaccinate 2,499,553 persons. The value of lymph issued free to jails and missions rose from Rs. 59 to Rs. 199. A sum of Rs. 34,640 was realized by the sale of lymph to local and other bodies and the total income was Rs. 38,357, while the total expenditure was Rs. 47,592. The loss in the working of the dépôt was due to an epidemic of rinderpest among the animals and to several items of non-recurring expenditure.

Lymph.

Staff and
cost.

266. In the sixteen districts in which the district health scheme was in force medical officers of health relieved civil surgeons of their duties connected with vaccination. The total cost of vaccination including the expenditure on the posts and staffs of the assistant directors of public health amounted to Rs. 4.73 lakhs. The cost of each successful vaccination was four annas and five pies compared with four annas and nine pies in the previous year.

General.

267. Mortality from small-pox rose from 2,724 in 1924 to 9,373 in 1925. In 1923 it was 747. Special inquiries disclosed the fact that nearly one half of school children evade vaccination. A proposal has been made to extend compulsory vaccination to rural areas.

CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION.

39. Education.

(See the report on Public Instruction for the year ending March 31, 1926.)

(See also tables 142 to 161 of the Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue, 1926.)

268. The number of educational institutions rose from 23,154 to 24,252 of which 21,360 were recognized institutions. The total enrolment rose from 1,192,415 to 1,293,625. In recognized institutions the increase has been 85 per cent.: in unrecognized 7·6 per cent.

General:
Numbers of
institutions
and
scholars.

The ratio of students to the population increased from 2·62 per cent. to 2·85, but while the percentage of males was 4·94 that of females was only 0·54.

269. The total expenditure on education increased by Rs. 9·68 lakhs to Rs. 313·54 lakhs, of which the share of Government was 56·9 per cent. While the contribution from fees rose by Rs. 1·09 lakhs that from other sources decreased by Rs. 2·73 lakhs. Greater help given to education by Government and local boards has been met by a disappointing falling off in the help given from private funds.

Expendi-
ture.

270. The total number of university students was 5,666 compared with 5,145 in the previous year. The increase was shared by all the four universities. There was greater uniformity in the results of the examinations held by the four universities. Lucknow University had a percentage of passes of 100 for B. A. (Honours), while Benares and Aligarh had 80 and 66 respectively. Both Lucknow and Benares had 95 per cent. passes for the degree of M. A. The lowest percentage of passes was at Aligarh where 55 per cent. passed the B. Sc. (Pass) examination. Of 3,859 male candidates and 42 female candidates for degrees 2,629 and 33 respectively were successful.

University
education:
Number of
university
students.

Progress of
the year:
Allahabad.

271. The enrolment increased by 133 of whom 84 were studying Law. In Science research work has been carried out and a three years course of study leading to a degree of B. Sc. with Honours was instituted. Three female lecturers to teach women students were appointed. The university proctor was given magisterial powers to try petty offences committed by students. The university is in need of funds to embark on new schemes. So far it has not had the help which might be expected from private benefactors.

Lucknow.

272. There was a rise of 164 in the total number of students of whom 86 were studying for the diploma in Arabic and Persian. Several academic changes have been made. The degree of D. Litt. will in future be an honorary degree only, while those of D. Phil. and D. Sc. will be awarded only to Masters of Arts and Science of not less than three years standing who have prepared a thesis or conducted research work deemed worthy of the degree. Courses of study in Hindi and Urdu have been prescribed for the B. A. degree, and a general test in English has been made compulsory for all Arts and Science students. Seven fellowships have been instituted and the number of scholarships increased.

Aligarh.

273. The Aligarh Muslim University celebrated the jubilee of the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental college in December, 1925. The number of students rose from 841 to 959. All the Indian universities and the universities of Great Britain, except Cambridge, have recognized the degrees of the Aligarh Muslim University.

Benares.

274. Two appointments have been made in the departments of History and Industrial Chemistry. Research work in Economics, Philosophy, Sanskrit and Ancient History was done. The hostel for women students was completed during the year. It can provide accommodation for one hundred women but at present its enrolment is five.

Thomason
Civil En-
gineering
college.

275. There was a decrease of specialization and an extension of general technical training in the courses of instruction. Military training continued to be compulsory for all civil engineering students.

276. The colleges at Agra, Meerut, Cawnpore and Bareilly continued to make progress and that at Gorakhpur recovered from a temporary set-back. The work of the Agra colleges was disorganized to some extent by plague. At Bareilly a private benefactor has given Rs. 14,000 towards the building of a Science block. A Science block was also under construction at the Dayanand Anglo-Vedic college, Cawnpore.

Associated colleges of the Allahabad University.

277. The number of scholars at the Sanskrit college, Benares, rose from 437 to 518. Out of 5,889 candidates for various Sanskrit examinations 2,754 were successful.

Oriental institutions.

Of 485 candidates for the various Arabic and Persian examinations 273 passed.

278. The number of secondary institutions rose by 28 to 852 and the enrolment by 10,272 to 121,326. Expenditure increased from Rs. 62.79 lakhs to Rs. 66.19 lakhs of which Rs. 35.20 lakhs were contributed from provincial funds.

Secondary education.

The number of intermediate colleges remained 26 but the number of scholars rose from 3,546 to 4,107. Expenditure increased from Rs. 12.74 lakhs to Rs. 13.46 lakhs of which Government contributed Rs. 6.44 lakhs.

With the addition of one high and two middle schools the number of English high and middle schools was 228 with an enrolment of 62,409 against 58,174 in the previous year. Expenditure rose to Rs. 38.97 lakhs of which Rs. 20.72 lakhs were contributed by Government. Of the teachers in English schools 38 per cent. are trained, but the improvement which might be expected from a greater percentage of trained teachers is reported to be curtailed by their apathy. Science and Commerce are favourite subjects. The standard of English is said to be deteriorating probably due to the extension of the use of the vernacular as the medium of instruction and examination. Manual training does not attract boys. Discipline is reported to have been good. The Boy Scout movement made progress but has been marked by a tendency to communalism—Hindus joining the Seva Samiti and Muslims and Christians the Baden-Powell organizations. The public takes little interest in the movement.

The number of boys in hostels steadily increased.

Of the 3,588 candidates for the intermediate examination 1,857 were successful and 4,105 out of 7,769 candidates passed the high school examination.

Government buildings at Moradabad, Lakhimpur, Sultanpur and Ghazipur were extended. The buildings of the Balwant Rajput and Victoria high schools, Agra, were completed and the Islamia Anglo-Vernacular middle school, Allahabad, moved to new buildings. The Muslim University school, Aligarh, was nearly completed and extensions were made to various other school buildings in the province.

The number of vernacular middle schools rose by 25 to 598 with an enrolment of 54,810. The total expenditure was Rs. 13.76 lakhs. Grants totalling Rs. 2.82 lakhs were made by Government to district boards towards the cost of buildings. The opening of 38 more English classes brought the total number of such classes in vernacular schools to 48, all of which receive aid from Government. Ten teachers deputed by ten district boards completed their course of training at the Agricultural school, Bulandshahr, and agricultural classes were started in several schools. Government sanctioned grants of Rs. 2,000 each to these boards for the establishment of farms in connexion with the agricultural classes. Steps were also taken for the introduction of manual training in fifteen schools. By these means it is hoped to counteract the too literary character of these schools.

Primary schools.

279. The number of primary schools rose from 17,345 to 18,220 and the enrolment from 921,494 to 998,592. Expenditure increased by Rs. 3.87 lakhs to Rs. 75.20 lakhs. There was an increase of 429 in the number of aided schools while unaided schools are now 205 compared with 91 in 1924-25. The percentage of trained teachers fell from 69.2 to 67.5. In several districts the schools were very much overstaffed and the school rolls contained many fictitious names, over 1,000 such names being removed in one district alone.

Buildings have deteriorated where they existed and little progress has been made in supplying them where they did not exist. In the Benares division alone there were 327 schools held under trees.

Free primary education as distinguished from compulsory education was introduced by a number of boards but did not have the result which was expected. The United Provinces District Board Primary Education Act of 1926 was the second step in the policy of Government to reach the stage of universal free and compulsory education for boys. The Act permits district boards to introduce free compulsory education for boys between six and eleven years of age in the same way as municipalities were allowed to do so by the Primary Education Act of 1919. Twenty-three municipal boards have introduced the system but the success of the scheme is affected by the general inefficiency with which most boards administer it.

280. At the Allahabad Training college there were 61 graduates of whom eleven were Masters of Arts. Lucknow, Agra and Aligarh had 51, 54 and 54 students, respectively. At Benares 28 out of 31 candidates were successful in the L. T. examination.

Training
institutions.

The number of normal schools remained eight but will soon be increased by two.

Of 850 candidates for the Vernacular Teachers' Certificate examination 51 per cent. were successful. The number of training classes conducted by local boards fell from 128 to 78. In 1923-24 there were 180.

A training course for women teachers was opened at Lucknow. The number of women students in other training schools rose by six to 233. Of 73 candidates for the Women's Vernacular Teachers' certificate 66 were successful. There were seventeen primary training classes for women teachers with 59 students during the year.

281. The number of educational institutions for girls rose from 1,809 to 1,937 of which 1,765 were public institutions. The enrolment increased from 68,823 to 76,355 and expenditure from Rs. 12.89 lakhs to Rs. 14.47 lakhs. Of this sum Government contributed Rs. 6.47 lakhs. The municipal boards contributed more than in the previous year while the district boards' share was again reduced.

Female
education.

At the Isabella Thoburn college in Lucknow there were 31 students of whom five were post-graduate students. The

college cleared off a large building debt with the help of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church which relieved the college of debts of over four lakhs. Three women lecturers were added to the staff of Allahabad University for the students of the Crosthwaite college, Allahabad.

Of 71 students in the intermediate colleges at Allahabad, Lucknow and Benares, 51 were in the Isabella Thoburn college. Fifteen were studying Science compared with four in the previous year.

In girls' high schools the enrolment rose from 1,599 to 1,818. A Montessori class was opened at the Theosophical National high school at Benares.

English middle schools rose from 30 to 32 and the enrolment from 3,943 to 4,090. Most of the schools are conducted satisfactorily by mission societies.

The number and enrolment of vernacular middle schools rose from 112 and 12,432 to 121 and 13,462. Of the 468 candidates for the Vernacular Lower Middle examination 265 were successful.

Primary schools increased from 1,437 to 1,563 and their enrolment from 47,287 to 52,534. The supply of teachers is not equal to the demand and the tendency of many boards to reduce their contributions for female education does not encourage would-be teachers.

The condition of buildings in the boards' schools and aided schools is bad. New buildings were constructed for the Government model girls' school at Aligarh.

**Technical
education.**

232. An account of the progress of agricultural, industrial and technical schools of various kinds has been given in chapter IV.

**Special
schools:
Schools for
Europeans.**

283. There was an increase of Rs. 94,761 in the expenditure on schools for Europeans making a total expenditure of Rs. 21.68 lakhs of which Government paid Rs. 9.31 lakhs. Of 209 candidates 119 passed the High School Certificate examination. The condition of schools for poor European children is unsatisfactory. Moreover, an English system of education is unsuitable

for the children of families who after generations of residence in India have little affinity with English habits and thought.

284. The number of boys in the Muslim schools and *maktabs* increased by 7,921 to 94,417 of whom 68,969 were in *maktabs* where the increase was 7,867. The experiment of appointing supervisors of *maktabs* in three districts in the previous year was not successful. Muslim schools.

285. The cost to Government of the education of depressed classes was Rs. 1.25 lakhs. There were 784 schools with an enrolment of 24,269 compared with 777 schools and 23,080 scholars in the previous year. Depressed classes.

In the Benares division where certain local boards have discouraged the education of depressed classes the number of scholars fell by 3,070. Caste prejudice is breaking down and high class boys were found reading in schools for the depressed classes, while there is now no strong opposition to boys of the latter class reading in the ordinary schools.

286. In April, 1925 a new board was constituted under the Intermediate Education Act of 1921. At its first meeting in November, 1925, besides making certain important changes in the courses of study and examination rules, the Board gave permanent recognition to four institutions for its examinations. The Agra University Act was passed in September, 1926. General.

Owing to lack of funds the London Missionary Society has been compelled to withdraw from the north of India. The province owes a great debt to this and kindred societies and it is satisfactory to record that the Rani of Kantit has taken over and endowed the London Mission high school at Mirzapur, while Babu Narotam Das has endowed the Church Mission Anglo-Vernacular school, Chunar, which was about to be closed.

A benefaction of Rs. 1.30 lakhs was made by the Raja of Tirwa for the construction of the Aditya Kumari high school, Tirwa.

40. Literature and the press.

LITERARY PUBLICATIONS.

287. There was a further decline from 2,727 to 2,653 in the number of publications registered during 1925. Number.

Language.

288. Hindi publications accounted for 52·5 per cent of the total, the next place being taken by Urdu publications with eighteen per cent. There were 1,394 publications in Hindi, 479 in Urdu, 216 in English, 84 in Sanskrit, 44 in Nepali, eighteen in Persian, seventeen in Bengali, seven in Arabic, four in Gujarati, three each in Marathi and Marwari, and one each in Gurmukhi and Garhwali. The number of polyglot publications rose again to 384.

Form.

289. Verse was, as usual, the favourite medium, covering almost one-third of the year's total output, although much of it was mere versification of a propagandist nature.

Subject and
tone:
Religion.

290. Religious works were, as usual, very numerous. The occurrence of the Dayanand centenary in the early part of the year had a marked influence on the religious publications of 1925, a considerable proportion of which were devoted to Arya Samaj propaganda or its refutation. Some of these tracts contained intemperate attacks on other religions. In a collection of songs of a nationalist character to be sung by girls, reference is made to alleged outrages committed on Hindu girls by Muslims. This is not an isolated nor indeed a particularly bad example of the appeals to baser instincts made in these acrimonious controversies. The book entitled *Daiya Islam*, described in last year's report, received advertisement at the beginning of the year from a number of pamphlets which Hindi writers issued against it.

Muslim writings were largely coloured by counter propaganda. The Sunni-Shia controversy and the alleged Wahabi excesses received some attention, whilst Christianity was attacked in some Muslim writings no less vigorously than in those emanating from other communities. The value of some of the writings on communal questions can be gauged by the fact that one author, a Muslim by birth, joined the Arya Samaj and wrote books against Islam. Not content with this, however, he again embraced Islam and was soon writing books in questionable taste against Hinduism.

Politics.

291. Literature of the nationalist type was mainly confined to poems bewailing the present condition of India, and in some cases advocating the use of force for the liberation of the country.

The grant of courage to face death in the struggle for liberty forms the subject of a prayer in a collection of poems intended for use in the schools of a certain district board. There were few considered and sober contributions to political thought. *Swadeshi* propaganda was carried on under the guise sometimes of economics and sometimes of fiction. The alarm of the Muslim community at the prospect of being always in a minority under a democratic form of government found expression in a number of writings.

292. Widow re-marriage, child marriage, and the elevation of the depressed classes again received attention. Special emphasis was laid on the necessity for the social betterment of the depressed classes, the writers being generally actuated by the fear that if Hindus did not receive these classes into their community, they would be converted either to Christianity or to Islam. In one orthodox Hindu publication it was suggested that a special caste should be constituted for them. Social.

The claims of the barber caste to belong to the Brahman community met with a number of refutations expressed in unmistakable language.

293. Municipal boards met with considerable criticism. One poem ascribes the communal riots at Delhi to a quarrel over municipal membership, while in another municipal boards, together with vakils, contractors and doctors, are said to be the cause of the ruin of India. Miscellaneous.

Lala Sita Ram continued his series of Hindi translations of the plays of Shakespeare, King Lear and Cymbeline appearing during the year. But most of the year's output was of an ephemeral nature, and serious contributions to literature were remarkably few.

THE PRESS.

294. The number of newspapers and periodicals increased for the second year in succession to 580. As reported last year monthly journals preponderate. They were 234 compared with 225 in the previous year. While the number of weekly papers increased from 139 to 160, bi-weekly papers decreased from thirteen to eleven. There was an increase of three in the number of daily papers which was 21. Number of newspapers

Publishing
centres

295. Lucknow stood first with 80 publications, Allahabad second with 69 and then came Cawnpore 57, Benares 44, Agra 44, Meerut 43, Aligarh 23, Moradabad thirteen and Bijnor twelve. The increase was most marked at Cawnpore (seventeen) and Meerut (fourteen).

Language

296. There was a rise in numbers both of Hindi and Urdu papers which were 246 and 196. The number of English papers fell from 103 to 99, whilst Bengali and Sanskrit papers fell from four each to three and two respectively.

Circulation.

297. One English daily paper doubled its circulation and was far ahead of all other papers, with an issue of 16,000 copies daily. Another English daily paper was second with a circulation of 6,500. There were in all seven daily papers with circulations of 2,000 and over. The increase in the circulation of the two leading English papers from 7,000 and 4,800 to 16,000 and 6,500 respectively is an outstanding feature of the year, as is also the rise in the circulation from 2,500 to 6,000 of an Urdu bi-weekly. On the other hand, the circulation of two leading Hindi papers has fallen from 4,500 and 3,000 to 725 and 2,000 respectively. Four Urdu papers increased their total circulation by 5,300, whilst four Hindi papers increased by 3,000 as a set off to the fall of 4,775 already noted in the two leading Hindi papers.

298. Among new papers five are Swarajist and extremist organs, while one criticizes the Congress and condemns political activities generally. Twenty-one papers ceased to appear including four of extreme political views and one advocate of Muslim interests.

Subject
matter
General

299. There was no improvement in the tone of the press. Hindu-Muslim tension was the pretext for bitter mutual recriminations and also for attacks on Government. Several papers published articles by notorious revolutionaries and some of extremist views resumed the preaching of civil disobedience and complete independence. It was often found convenient to attribute communal riots to a policy of "divide and rule" on the part of Government. Selfish motives were even imputed to Government's policy of agricultural development. The

editors of two papers were prosecuted for the publication of revolutionary and seditious articles. One was convicted and the case against the other was withdrawn on his tendering an apology. The editor and printer of a third paper were prosecuted for objectionable articles against Muslims.

The circulation of the *Leader* is steadily increasing. It demands a large advance in responsible government and the stoppage of European recruitment for the services. The *Indian Daily Telegraph* changes hands too frequently to have a uniform policy. Its attacks on Government and British policy generally show little restraint. The most popular Hindi weekly is the *Pratap*, an advocate of extreme nationalist views. The *Patriot*, *Aj*, *Bhavisya*, *Abhaya* and *Awaz* made indiscriminate attacks upon Government and Muslims alike, and in spite of the conviction of its editor, the *Vartman* continued to preach Bolshevism and civil disobedience. The *Medina*, now the most widely circulated Urdu paper, represents Britain as the greatest enemy of Islam. In the *Hamdam*, the *Oudh Akhbar*, *Al Bashir* and *Azad* Swarajist tendencies were combined with reasonably well-informed criticism of Government. While, therefore, there was an increase in expressions of hostility to Government there was no decrease in communal controversy. Hindi papers were greatly interested in the question of Hindu organization and it was suggested by one paper that the Hindu Maha Sabha should replace the Congress with a view to the establishment of a Hindu *raj*. Schemes of organization gained in popularity as communal tension increased with the approach of the *Bakr'Id*. The stoppage of music before mosques was the occasion for a general call to rally round the *sangathan* movement. Exaggerated and in most cases false reports of the kidnapping of Hindu women and children by Muslims were seized upon as a pretext for violent anti-Muslim propaganda.

The Muslim papers were not slow to take up the challenge. *Tanzim* and *tabligh* were advocated to counter the articles on the Hindu reorganization, and to the Maha Sabha was ascribed the desire to rid India of Muslims. In such an atmosphere there was a tendency for some Muslims to revert to their pre-Khilafat policy of closer alliance with the Government. In default of

equal representation for the Muslim community, Government are asked by some papers to resume the powers given to the people.

Foreign
affairs.

300. The Muslim press in general accused Great Britain of an anti-Muslim policy in regard to the Hedjaz and the Moroccan and the Syrian campaigns. French action in Syria and British policy regarding Mosul were severely criticized and sympathy was shown with the Riffs.

Papers of all shades of opinion protested vigorously against the alleged treatment of Indians in the colonies, especially in South Africa. A policy of retaliation against the colonies was demanded.

The revolutions in Persia and China were welcomed as happy auguries of the birth of a new Asia freed from European exploitation.

Reforms.

301. The majority report of the Reforms Inquiry Committee was condemned as reactionary. The liberal papers favoured the minority report but most papers would have nothing to do with it. There was a continuous demand for the stoppage of European recruitment for the services.

Labour and
communism.

302. Several papers professed to see in the organization of labour the road to independence or self-government. Letters from revolutionaries abroad and from the Indian Communist party in India were printed from time to time. Action taken under the Bengal Ordinance was represented as an attempt to crush the Swaraj party and even the arrests made in connexion with the Kakori train dacoity were denounced as a move to discredit political workers.

41. Arts and sciences.

(See reports on the Lucknow and Muttra museums and on the Allahabad Public library for the year ending March 31, 1926.)

Museums.

303. The Provincial Museum at Lucknow took an important part in the second All-India Fine Arts Exhibition held at Lucknow in January-February, 1926. The curator went to Delhi and Calcutta to collect paintings and nearly all the

exhibits for the exhibition were received and despatched by the museum. The number of visitors rose from 107,873 to 141,044.

There were 177 accessions to the museum including 27 under Archaeology, 130 coins and medals, two Natural history, eleven Ethnography and seven Library and pictures. With the addition of a few slides of important paintings the museum now has slides available for lectures on Art, Architecture and Sculpture. Plaster casts of coins were supplied to certain educational institutions. Among objects of archaeological value received are an image comparable with that excavated at Nalanda in 1919-20, another image probably representing Mahāmānāsī, a small brass statuette of Ambikā Yakshini of Neminātha, dated Samvat, 1519, a tiny bronze statuette thought to represent Kodanda Rāma and a copperplate grant found in the Cawnpore district recording the revival of the grant of a village by King Bhojadeva I of the Pratihāra dynasty of Kanauj in the year Vikrama Samvat 893 (A. D. 835). Among the coins received during the year are a double stater of Kadphises II, a gold coin of Vasudeva carrying on the reverse a portrait of Siva, three-faced and four-armed, and a *mīhrābī mohar* of Akbar, mint Agra, of the 49th Ilahi year. The senior Rani of Qila Partabgarh presented eight gold tokens depicting the fish incarnation of Viṣṇu, portraits of Kṛishna and Rādhā and scenes connected with the Rāmāyana.

Under Natural history a tigress was presented by Mr. W. Cassels, O.B.E. Ethnographical acquisitions include three *artis* of brass in various patterns and of exquisite finish.

A number of valuable books was added to the library and during the year the catalogue of the coins of the Sultans of Delhi compiled by the curator was published. The net cost of upkeep to Government was Rs. 17,019.

304. The Archaeological museum at Muttra for which a new building has just been commenced was enriched by some antiquities presented by the honorary curator.

305. The Public library at Allahabad possessed on March 31, 1926, 35,000 volumes. The number of visitors rose during the year from 18,750 to 18,983. In 1922-23 the number was

Libraries.

only 7,761. The number of depositors rose from 920 to 932 and the number of books issued from 9,534 to 10,653. Works of English literature, History, Fiction and Sociology received the most attention.

The Fine Arts.

306. An exhibition of Fine Arts at Lucknow was well attended especially by students for whom special facilities were arranged. The exhibits covered all periods of Indian history and culture.

As a result of the All-India Music Conference in January, 1925, the Marris college of Hindustani Music has been established at Lucknow. There are 151 students including seventeen ladies on the roll. The total annual recurring cost is Rs. 12,000. Government give a grant of Rs. 6,000: the other half of the cost is met from private contributions, fees and the income from an endowment of Rs. 40,000 which was raised by subscription. At present the college meets in a hired building but efforts are being made to provide a permanent home for it.

CHAPTER VIII.—ARCHAEOLOGY.

42. Archaeology.

(See extracts relating to the United Provinces from the reports of the Superintendent, Hindu and Buddhist Monuments, Northern circle, and of the Superintendent, Muhammadan and British Monuments, Northern circle, for the year ending March, 31, 1926.)

[All monuments of major importance in the provinces are in the charge of the Central Government and it is to these only that the details given below refer.]

HINDU AND BUDDHIST MONUMENTS.

307. More than half of the work to be done at Gaahwa was completed in the year. The *Surya* temple in the north-west corner of the fort was rebuilt almost entirely with old materials found at the site. The west wall of the fort was completed and the *Dasavatara* temple has been repaired. Conservation.

At Mahoba in the Hamirpur district the foundations of the *Kakra Marh* and *Rahilya* temples were underpinned and other minor works of restoration were completed. The temples are thought to date from the seventeenth and tenth centuries respectively. The *Sijari* temple which was built about the eleventh century was being used as a cattle pen in 1918. It was cleaned in 1925. A drain was built round the *Makarbai* temple which is the fourth ancient temple at Mahoba.

At Talbehat, midway between Jhansi and Lalitpur, minor repairs and improvements were carried out on the Maratha fort which contains old palaces and a temple of *Narasimha*. The latter has a vestibule painted with Maratha war scenes and floral designs, which it is hoped to preserve.

The Buddhist relics discovered in 1923-24 at Bilsar have been fenced.

At Sarnath part of the south boundary wall of the *Dharma-chakrajinavihara* was repaired and the bed of the old drain attached to the main shrine and the forecourt was cleared of silt.

The total sum spent on conservation was Rs. 21,686.

MUHAMMADAN AND BRITISH MONUMENTS.

Conserva-
tion

308. The repairs to the mosque at the Taj Mahal at Agra begun in 1924 were completed during the year and surface fractures in the Jawab mosque were repaired. The Taj has been connected with the city electric scheme with satisfactory results. Two shops at Tajganj mohalla which obscured the view of the Resham Katra were acquired and will be demolished.

At Agra Fort certain works in the Moti Masjid, Machhi Bhawan and Jahangiri Mahal were completed. In the course of the work on the last named an octagonal tank was discovered and has been restored.

A start was made on the project for the conservation of the tomb of 'Itimadu'd-Daula, the estimate for which is Rs. 47,000. The central water channels and causeways have been paved and the river-side wall repaired.

At Sikandra where a tube well was completed in the previous year an engine shed for the accommodation of the pumping plant has been built. Various other alterations in the laying out of the grounds have been made and it is hoped that the new pumping plant will solve the difficulty of the shortage of water and permit of the laying out of more attractive grounds. The tomb of Bibi Zainab which had settled owing to the sinking of a grave under the pavement of the courtyard was dismantled and rebuilt.

The repairs of certain monuments at Lucknow which were damaged by the floods were completed.

Works of restoration were also carried out on the forts at Jagner, Aligarh and Rae Bareli, and on the tombs of Shah Pir at Meerut, of Nawab Diler Khan at Hardoi, of Shujā'u'd-Daula at Fyzabad and of Iftikhar Khan at Chunar in the Mirzapur district. Other repairs including those to the mosque of Aurangzeb at Benares were carried out elsewhere.

The total expenditure on conservation was Rs. 1.40 lakhs.

CHAPTER IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

43. Ecclesiastical.

309. The year was uneventful.

44. Emigration and immigration.

(See the reports on the working of the Indian Emigration Act, VII of 1922, for the year 1925, and on Assam Labour Emigration from the United Provinces for the year ending June 30, 1926.)

(See also tables 172 and 173 of the Statistical Abstract for British India, fourth issue, 1926.)

310. There was no emigration to countries overseas during 1925. Foreign emigration.

The total number of emigrants from the colonies in 1925 was 3,032. No record is kept of the destination in India of returning emigrants, but as most of the emigrants to the colonies in the past belonged to the United Provinces, there is a presumption that most of them returned to this province.

Over one-third of emigrants who returned were paupers.

311. The records of inland emigrants refer only to the recruitment of coolies for Assam. Inland emigration.

The total number of coolies recruited from the eighteen districts in which recruitment was carried out rose from 3,510 to 3,760. The greatest number of recruits again came from the three districts of Gorakhpur, Cawnpore and Basti. Gorakhpur headed the list with 1,291 recruits, while Cawnpore and Basti together accounted for another 1,416. Two cases of irregular recruitment resulted in conviction in the Basti district.

312. No record is kept of immigrants to these provinces. Immigration.
There has been a certain amount of immigration into the western districts from Rajputana, especially from Bharatpur.

45. Government printing and stationery.

(See the reports on the working of the Government Presses and on the consumption of stationery for the year ending March 31, 1926.)

Government Press.

313. The work of the Government Press continued to increase. The Branch Presses at Lucknow and Naini Tal were kept occupied and the Naini Tal Branch Press employed an average of 263 convicts compared with 258 in the previous year. The quantity of paper ordered rose from 502 to 611 tons. Some difficulty was felt in getting paper of the quality required.

Receipts for the year fell from Rs. 3.62 lakhs to Rs. 3.41 lakhs. The total expenditure was Rs. 5.60 lakhs compared with Rs. 5.23 lakhs in the previous year, and the value of work done was Rs. 9.39 lakhs compared with Rs. 8.81 lakhs. The number of books registered rose from 2,781 to 2,992, of which 2,217 were original works.

An advance towards the greater mechanical efficiency of the Press has been made through the acceptance by Government of the principle of a Depreciation fund.

Stationery.

314. The total value of stationery and rubber stamps issued during the year was Rs. 4.76 lakhs against Rs. 4.46 lakhs in the previous year. The share of the Government Press rose from Rs. 2.75 lakhs to Rs. 3.20 lakhs. The average cost of supply for the whole of the province *per capita* fell from Rs. 14 to Rs. 11.

